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TO BEATRICE.

ON RECEIVING A BOUQUET.

Thy gift, yet before me, dear sister, hath wrought
A spell o'er and o'er on the shadows of thought.
The violet, lowly in loveliness, seems
Apart, almost holy, of earlier dreams;
It leadeth me over with magical power,
For thought cannot sever dear home and that flower.
A fresh tint, or sunlight where once was none,
Then, too, hast been pining for home, Beatrice.

It bloomed, oh, how brightly! where all was my own:
Where fell the dew lightly on seed I had sown;
There morning beheld me, and all was delight
Till darkness compelled me to murmur "good night."
Those flowers, thus cherished and blooming each day,
She loved, who has perished as calmly as they.
It comes to my bosom an angel of peace,
Fair childhood's sweet blossom—thy gift, Beatrice.

The rose—shall I name thee, thou queen of the flowers?—
Enough that I olisin thee the loved in all hours!
The brow of the sleeper, in visioning rest—
The joyous—the weeper—thy presence has blessed.
What pure thoughts unspoken thy petals impart!
As friendship's sweet token, how dear to heart!
Though widely we sever, though sorrows increase,
Thy love I hold ever with this, Beatrice.

Though life's sweetest rose a pathway adorn,
It often blossoms over and blooms over thorns.
The spirit concealeth its trials from light;
Time only revealeth the ravaging blight.
I ask not of heaven thy future to know:
To me be it given to share weal and woe.
Oppressed in the darkness, be still, heart, and cease,
And blessed in thy gladness, my own Beatrice.

For the National Era.

LIFE ON PRAIRIE DE LA FLEUR.—NO. 13.

BY MARY IRVING.

CHAP. III—Continued.

Returning to the parlor, they sat down to enjoy the sunshine of the evening—the guests, the children, Ada, and her elder friend. The former and his hands came in with the last gleams of twilight, too weary for anything but supper and repose. Ada's young girl had fallen asleep on the arm of the youngest stranger, who had charmed her almost into convulsions of laughter by repeating wild, fantastic child stories whirling her about like a top, and tossing her over his head, till the excited little lady-like jerk of her skirts, crackling, and was breathing sweetly and softly, while her gauze-covered shoulder heaved tenderly, and modulated his clear voice, so as not to break the spell.

Ada seemed frankly and unconsciously attracted by his winning and witty conversation and manners. She had lived long enough to know that manity keeps its honest, untutored roughness, and the eyes and lips of this new acquaintance—this friend, as she already acknowledged him in her heart, opened to her a glimpse of new, bright, far-off world.

Ada was one of a species too rare—a full-grown, happy, artless *girl*: the blossom still bathed in the dew and fresh fragrance of its bud. Wild as a hawk, yet warm-hearted as a dove, she was as unsophisticated as either on all that pertains to the "great world" of life. Never even in a large city, after twenty years had been spent in a large village, much less in a city. Canadian forests and wild wide prairies had been the only instructresses of her enthusiastic spirit. Full of a fond, buoyant life, and free from a fear of the rank and station, whose claims she never knew, had only been saved from becoming a moral incorrigible hoyden, by the silently softening influence of a most graceful, invalid mother, and the daily precept and example of her beloved gouvernante; for as such she evidently looked up to her dark-eyed companion. But her fluffing eye, dashingly curved little mouth, and finely moulded head, with its almost haughty carriage, gave promise of a magnificent woman, when she should be moulded and developed, and the gentle and subtle influence of intelligent society. Her character was not one to wear away under the polishing touch. Possessing the true diamond firmness it would take only a brighter radiance from every benign influence.

She brought out her herbarium, with all the enthusiasm of a child of eight, and less bashfulness. She opened it, and began to display her well-earned treasures from grove and glen, with many an eager explanation, and animated description. The young gentleman was at first amused, then warmly interested; for he could not help catching the infection of the delight that sparkled in her eyes and glowed in her dimpled cheeks. Henley also drew near, not to scan the mummified forms of prairie flowers, but the young face and head of which he evidently kept up over all his companion's movements.

"That is a splendid specimen of the *Arthusa bulbosa*, Ada Irvine, and a rare one," said he, as she turned the last leaf: "but you might find a finer one in our warm Southern woods!"

"I wouldn't go South, for all that!" she replied, shutting up her folio at the same time, quite energetically.

"Why not?" asked her friend, in surprise.

"Because you have *slaves* there!" she answered, briefly and fearlessly.

"Miss Egerton must have travelled extensively in the South, to form so decisive an opinion!" remarked Henley, in his smoothest of sarcastic tones.

Ada had lifted her head quickly at the first words arching significantly her fine eyebrows and lips. Henley's sharp, small gray eye was fixed on her, like the eye of the cold rattlesnake upon the robin it would lure to destruction. All the rosy blood in her cheeks seemed fused by that glance, for it swelled into her high forehead, as she answered, almost angrily, "No, sir, and I never will—never! I am an English girl, and free born! I could not breathe the air that *slaves* breathe—or *slave holders* either!"

"Indeed!" mildly, "returned the gentle man, bowing blandly, "but facts *have* modified prejudices in older and wiser heads than your own!"

"Yes, they *have!*" she replied, vehemently, "and a burning shame it is to the free hair of America! I will tell you what you do with the Northern ladies whom you wile away to your Southern homes. You either make tigresses of them, or else you break their hearts! I have heard about a lady——"

"Ada—Ada, dear!" whispered the other lady, in an entreating tone, with evident agitation.

Ada tossed a glance to her, but would not be restrained. Her girlish English blood was thoroughly roused.

"I've heard of a lady who married a rich Southern gentleman, and went to his fine plantation, to be mistress of his slaves. And what became of her? Why, her heart would not harden, and so it broke! She wasted away, and died, and I don't know but she deserved it, for selling herself into a land of slaves!"

The excited girl's friend here caught her hand, and drawing her down into a chair by her side, whispered beseechingly in her ear. Lewis would fain have done the same by Henley, whose brows knit as he proceeded to remark—

"You have resided in Canada some years, I understand. Doubtless you found the condition of the *free* negroes in that province highly superior to the common lot of mankind! They, at least, have escaped the 'dire ills' of slavery! Do they not enjoy paradisiacal felicity in their liberty?"

Ada sprang to her feet, like a wild fawn at bay, and resolutely faced him, with her falcon eye.

"I will tell you what I *know* seen, Mr. Henley! I have seen men, women, and little children, too, suffering, to give up, not the *comforts* only, but the *necessaries of life*, for a few breathings of free air! I have seen a mother, who came from a splendid Virginia plantation with her two little ones, not knowing where in all the *free* world she should find a shingle to shelter them, or a crust to share with them. I have seen her, when she stood by the dead body of one poor little thing, that had shrunk away of cold and hunger—while the others had scarcely rags enough to cover them, and she only said— Bless the Lord, *he* did not live to be a slave!' I have seen a boy may be a bad race—the fugitives—they may steal and lie, but, who taught them—who drove them to it? Answer me *that!*"

She did not wait for an answer, but hurried on.

"Why did we—why did father choose our home in cold, cheerless Canada, instead of the States? Because of Slavery! And when dear mamma dropped among the snow-drifts, to the same here, to this broad, free prairie, where father says he would not live a day longer, if a slave could live here, and *be* a slave. *That* is the reason that we must submit to the mode of the South, long ago, where poor, sweet mamma wouldn't perhaps be pining away like a frost-bitten flower?——

Ada knew that she had gone too far; she was overcome here at last, and sinking back, burst into passionate tears.

"Ada!" called again that silvery voice from the inner room; Ada flew, sobbing, to obey its call.

She came back in half an hour, quite composed and cheerful, with all traces of tears wiped from her flushed cheeks. She seemed to have regained a suitable check, for she did not again attack her opponent, Henley, but took her former seat by Lewis, who exerted himself warmly to atone for his companion's offence in wounding Ada so much, not long at silent or sullen, and in less than ten minutes she was laughing as musically as ever. Then such mirthful stories as she told of her wild rambles and rides on her pony, over the prairie, with gleams of enthusiasm bursting from eye and lip. Her listener felt the mighty magic of a joyous kindred heart thrill the boyish pulses of his own.

Ten o'clock! rang the vibrating wire of the little clock in the kitchen.

"Upon my word!" yawned Henley, pulling out his watch with a repeater, "I find myself quite fagged out with the day's expeditions and experiences!"

"We have very homely lodgings to offer you, gentlemen!" replied their hostess, "but if you will, I will show them directly. First, however, let me relieve you of your burden," she added, almost timidly reaching out her hands for the child. "Little Nora is not used to these late hours, and I fear she has tired your patience and your arm, sadly."

"Oh! not at all," returned the youth, gally, with a smile that sunned her heart. "I have always had the most unbounded faith in the lullaby influence of a baby, and nothing could be more precious, pleasantries, and babies, and have longed, my life through, for a little sister, to plague and pet!"

Henley smiled to himself a half sneer of incredulity or contempt, which Lewis caught as he turned to return Ada's cordially smiled "Good night." As Henley passed her, she drew herself up with a cold, queenly nod, returned by an ironically evil bow.

The staircase was too narrow to admit more than one at a time; and Lewis was following the mistress of the steps, when he felt a slight touch upon his arm, and turning in some surprise, he saw the face of his hostess at his shoulder, tremulous with anxiety. She whispered, in agitated haste—"Steal away from your friend secretly, as soon as you can. I beg it. I *must see you!* Don't betray me!"

The young man was struck motionless with astonishment.

"Come, follow! where have you been practicing the snail's pace?" called Henley, from the upper stair.

"I—I dropped my handkerchief," answered Lewis, and muttering something to his words, and picking it up again, he sprang over three steps at a bound towards the top.

"This is your chamber, gentlemen, the best we have to offer you. I hope you will find your rest refreshing." Setting down the candle, their attendant retired, with a good night courtesy.

"Not half so bad as though it were worse!" ejaculated Henley, looking about the chamber. It was a tidy little whitewashed room, half under the eaves, and scarcely high enough for a six-footer to stand straight in. But its couch was covered with a snow-white counterpane, its one window was veiled with a cambric curtain as white; one shelf of books, in rich English binding, swung against the wall near by; and in the opposite corner stood a small mahogany dressing-stand, furnished with elegant toilet paraphernalia.

"You and I have camped out under the moon for too often to grumble at trifles. But what's brewing, chum?"

Lewis had taken the largest volume from the book-shelf, and was delighted to find it Grey's Botany," with a well-known and well-written name on the blank leaf, half hidden by the petals of a pressed violet, which he silently abstracted.

"This is Ada's room, then!" he said, involuntarily, with a glance about him.

"Ahem."

The speaker's young cheeks flushed at this sarcastic interruption:

"Lewis, you should learn to make concquents without putting your own fingers into the fire!" Henley went on in his emphatic tone—" but, get your susceptibilities seared as fast as you can, if you cannot keep them under lock and key!"

"I never will!" exclaimed warmly the true-hearted youth.

"Humph! So far gone already? All the better! Ah! 'this love, this love, it is a'"——

"Henley, what are you talking about?" demanded Lewis impatiently. "I am not in love!"

"Who insinuated that you *were*, youngster? 'Tis the wounded bird that flutters! You—why, *I*, who have been sitting under the Circe-like eyes of your nondescript fortieth cousin, might be excused for a short soliloquy on my own behalf, in my transformation! Prithee, lad, lie down, and compose thy sensibilities!"

"What foolery!" retorted the other, with a forced laugh. "Go to bed yourself, Henley, I have a letter yet to write."

"A love-letter, by the firebrand eyes of"—

"Yes, to my head overseer," interrupted the other, demurely.

"What, the elephant-nosed fellow? Whew!" whistled Henley; "but—'*de gustibus non est*,' &c., as quoted Tutor Y. I prefer paying my devoirs to Sonnez."

Shaking up his pillow, he fell back upon it to sleep.

Lewis sat with his head leaning on his left hand, and his right hand resting upon the unopened letter before him, listening to catch the first deep breathing of his companion, and resolving in his mind the singular request. At last the sonorous signal of stupefaction was given, and he lightly stepped to the casement, and looked out into the moonlight.

"To go—or not to go—that is the question," repeated he, as the flickering shade and sheen of a silently waving sash seemed beckoning him mysteriously forth. "What, in the name all that is sensible, can she want with *me*, and at this hour? Shade of Don Quixote!" he apostrophized, shrugging his shoulders, as curiosity got the better of his irresolution, "I give myself up to thy guidance!" and he stole out like the rash like shadow.

A figure, shrouded in falling white drapery floated distinctly in the passage before him, and he felt his arm seized by its tremulous grasp. "Frank Lewis?" was the faint but eager whisper.

"The same!" was his subdued but surprised response.

"Then if you a favor to-night, young stranger, which you shall never repent being granted. Will you follow me?"

"I am at your service, madam," replied the mystified youth.

"Softly, then!" and her shawl more closely over her head, and beckoned him to follow her through the carefully unclosed front door.

[TO BE CONCLUDED IN OUR NEXT.]

THE STRANGE VISITANT.

A FEARFUL CASE OF DELIRIUM TREMENS.

BY DR. J. E SNODGRASS.

The inmates of one of the beautiful residences near Bloomingdale village, a new suburb, were surprised, one morning, at a rather unreasonable hour, by a loud call for a very extraordinary nature, which would unquestionably have created a deal of terror, in the absence of the gentleman of the house at the moment, but for the timely and beneficial presence as guest of the house. It was made in the person of a man who had evidently come forth from a pretty passable *toilette*, which, however, had seemed to have undergone a process of illicit sweat. He was tall and gaunt in figure; his whole countenance were the lineaments of excitement, intense and uncontrollable; his eyes glaring and distended; his facial muscles twitching, as if almost ready to start from their tendonous attachments; his coat was freshly torn; his elbows thickly coated with mud and sand, not yet dried; his pants, and even his vest, neckcloth, and collar having partaken of the same misfortune. On his nose was a bruise, which appeared to have been produced by a recent fall.

With faltering, stammering tongue, and fragmentary, incoherent speech, he called for water.

"Water—a drink of water! I'm famishing with thirst! Water, for God's sake, please!"

There was no water near. But, turning from the hall to the breakfast table, I seized a pitcher of milk, as a good substitute. He gulphed it down eagerly, yet with hand quivering like an aspen leaf.

"What in the world's the matter, man?—why so muddy?" I asked, experiencing some difficulty in commanding my own reason, (often tried though it had been,) because of the fix concerning effect upon terrified persons around me.

"Matter—no matter!" he answered, with wildest, nervous accents. "Terrible calamity! *An earthquake in the city—one half the city destroyed—gone, sir—destroyed—swallowed up, sir!*"

"How, how, good man?"

"Do tell us," interposed a stander-by.

"By a comet—a comet, sir!"

"You're jesting, man," I replied; "how could a comet do destruction?"

"No jest, sir! It's done, sir—the whole of Long Island is in the sea—sea—deep sea, sir; people all drowned, amid screams terrific! I've just run from the scene, in agony of fright—run all the way—no breath, I'm breath."

"I fell down," he continued. "And see, see! (looking up at the telegraphic wire along Eighty-sixth street) they are telegraphing the news to the north! Like-wise—there, hear that! (turning his ear towards the Harlem railroad.) It's rumbling still! Oh! me; I feel the earth quaking under me! The comet is here—here, it's following me! See it!" (fixing his glaring eyes upon a tattered kite, which some urchin had left upon the wire, by accident, or on purpose.) there it is! I feel the earth quiver! We'll be sucked with the current of the shock, and whirl of the earthquake! The sun is whirled to the west—see it!"

And he trembled and quaked, poor fellow, and stared wildly, almost demonically.

His hand reached mechanically for a sheep-skin door rug, hanging on the porch balustrade. A slight rattle struck my own ear. *He started back, exclaiming*—

"Don't you hear that rumbling? And see these figures—a head of Queen Victoria—a serpent—a demon! See, see, see!" (They were some coil-spots on the flesh side of the sheep-skin.)

"Come here, sir—look between those rolling billows, (the breeze stirred shrubbery,) and see that dog-fish! The sea has been turned upside down, and the dog-fish is being thrown ashore. We'll have all the water here in a moment. We'll all be gone—gone—go-o-ne forever!"

Hastened to this, and much more. Some one of the children suggested that perhaps it was *true*; that the papers had told of the excavations and extensions at the Battery, and that, may be, the lower part of the city *had* slided into the water, and the people received a Sodom-like fate!

"Where did you sleep last night?" I inquired.

"In town, sir—town, sir—run all the way here, sir!"

"What's your name?"

"Voorhies, sir."

"Where do you live?"

"I *did* live at Mr. Stevens's, corner of South street and Peck slip—a lodging house. But, too, is gone, sir; gone—swallowed up—*all* the lodgers—all gone!"

"Indeed! But how could they have been all drowned, and you here?"

Not disconcerted in the least, he replied—"I am, sir—run for my life! And there—there, oh! see—see—that comet coming again!"

And he started for the road, as if a deer pursued by a whole pack of hounds, to re-enact the same scene, and tell the same wild, incoherent tale to others, no doubt.

Do you catch the cause of the man's frenzy, reader? If not, ask those who have suffered, before him, the horrors—the indescribable horrors—of *delirium tremens*, or *mania-a-potu*—commonly called "the man with the poker." That was the cause of his strange and startling imaginings—chimeras of the brain decayed, shattered, ruined for the time—ay, and ruined hopelessly, and speedily terminating in death—terrific death—if relief does not come through *sleep*, which Dr. Dixon has aptly styled "the repose of the mind." Let us hope that he has procured sleep ere this; and in the meantime let the Gothamites congratulate themselves that they have been swallowed up by only an *imaginary* earthquake.

SEQUEL.—I communicated the startling facts of the foregoing sketch (for it is faithful to every symptom of the awful case it describes, showing how true it is that facts are frequently 'stranger than fiction,") to a friend connected with the New York *National Democrat*, on which they were published on the day after the occurrence. But, not feeling satisfied without some inquiry as to the reality and identity of the persons designated by name, and anxious to learn the fate of the Rum Maniac, if possible, I proceeded to the corner of South street and Peck slip, where I found—contrary, somewhat, to my anticipation, in view of the mental delusions common to delirium—that the reference, as to the locality, name, was correct; and further, that I had been advertising not only a "lodging house," but a *drinking* house, also!

I inquired for Mr. Voorhies, and learned that he had recovered, partially, from an attack to which he was not, alas! a stranger. It seems he had walked, if not "run all the way," as he asserted, (about six miles!) from an imaginary earthquake.

One of the bar-keepere had read the account in the morning paper, but another had not. The latter proceeded to read it in my presence; *and, as he read, he laughed unconcernedly over the wild sayings of the very victim of his own death dealing business!* for such was, in part at least, without doubt, poor Voorhies, "The Strange Visitant."

From the Indiana Free Democrat.

E PLURIBUS UNUM.

OR AN OLD TEXT, WITH A NEW GLOSS, FOR ALL ANTI-SLAVERY MEN.

Channing, the wise, firm foe of Slavery,
And Garrison, the Hannibal of that Rome,
In purpose one, for years could never come
To see alike, nor yet to the liberty—
So dear and yet so rare—to disagree;
Till, at an hour of freedom's darkest gloom,
They met in Massachusetts' Senate Room,*
And plighted hands in Faith and Charity.

Strangers before, they were estranged no more.
But toiled together, till one left them there.
Bound heavenward. Then, for Christ, for victory won,
Friends of humanity, bid strife begone;
Leagued in a common cause, keep trust in one another;
Each strive in his own sphere, and own in each a brother.

* The incident referred to may be found recorded in the Memoirs of Channing, volume 3, pages 229, 230.

From the Philadelphia Daily Register.

WORLD-MAKING

BY ELIZA L. SPROAT.

I.

I will make a world, said a poet to his brothers; here in this black, bitter depth of Winter, I will bring the light of spring. No storms shall enter it, nor hurricanes, nor frost blights, nor drowning deadness of rain.

I will bring the far hills together to surround it; it shall be only large enough for the beautiful of the earth, and for their poets; all of ugly and unengenial I will put outside the hills

And I will sprinkle the ground with violets, that shall, perfuming the brook side, may never fail to meet the little blue faces peeping from out the reeds.

And I will star the woods with forest flowers, and the fields with daisies; and all dark, hidden lakes I will lamp with silver lilies; but in the glow outside the sunshine will grow alive, and bloom into roses, opicing all the summer air.

As all the little, merry, living things shall know and love me; I will fie in the woods and sing back challenges to the saucy birds, watching in the sky from their sideway slices of their eyes: the bees will follow me, humming for my gather ed roses; a handful of woodbine will be the coy, quick humming-bird to my side; I will come unaware upon the water-snake, and he will not dream of this charmed circle, but will lie on my finger and flash the green gold from his royal wings; I will take the rosy field mouse in my hand unfrightened, and the quaint, blind, soft little mole.

And I will study sounds se close and reverently that simple brook-talk will become articulate, and I shall understand the moanings and strivings of the poor, imprisoned sea.

And I will know the sun and the fairy world with sunset, and I will watch and quicken it with June; and I will freshen it with all the glorious ness of water, the strengthener, the life-giving—that other sign of character, or tender in can haze, or dainty sweet in fragrant, drooping showers.

And I will people my world, beside ourselves, with nymphs, and dryads, and fairies, till every seeming solitary place be populous with a carefree, taste-free, happy half-humanity.

So all our lives shall be spent in keeping ourselves unspotted from the world without us, holding us ever in harmony with its perfection, suffering no discordant issues of life to vex our quiet, putting all of ugliness or pain, or common, coarse life-drudgery, far outside the hills.

And I will make my care-free world a Poesy, to whom be reverence for evermore.

II.

I will make a world! said a brother poet; here, amid the sullen sourness of the bigot's life of gloom, I will have a sphere of pleasure. No stormy changes shall enter it, nor heartblights of custom, nor deadening dullness of convention and restraint.

It shall be only large enough for the joyous of the earth, and for their poets; all of age, and grief, and weakness, and daily, coarse lifedrudgery, I will put outside the hills.

Sensitive violets sparsely by the brookside, oh, brother, please not to tread on me! I will carpet the earth so thick that our feet shall be lost in living fragrance; tend with painful care thy few frail roses, but I will cast mine down with a lavish hand, pomegranate flowers, large and red, all alive, with the haughtiness of new beauty yet about them—what care we for their queenliness? Let them die of their too much loveliness, for already the sun is busy with the budlings, filling and bursting their red darkness for our to-morrow's pleasure. Content thine ear with brook-music and the sound of birds, but keep thine eye and woman's voice transcend them. Suffice thy thirst in water, if freshness alone suffice thee; but only the winecup concentrates a life into a day.

There is love, and my scattered violets, and freshen them against the fierce wave of beauty; I will glorify thy roses to engross the swaying of a yet more haughty gracefulness; I will crown thy talking brook in loud songs of mirth and revel; I will redden thy silver lilies in wine.

And so our lives shall lapse in light and music; pain, and toil, and too much thought, and the bigot's morbid conscience, shall be put outside the hills forever.

And the master of this care-free world is *Pleasure*, to whom be all the praise for ever-more.

III.

I will make a world, said yet another; nay, but I see it, even now, around us; it is in the hearts of men, and women, and children. It is a place of toil, and pain, and trial—worse than all, of doubt. I see one soul among the many, bewildered, almost overwhelmed in his search for the Truth of life. On he gropes, with a central faith still glimmering through the darkness of his heart; feeling painfully, one by one, the forest maze of errors that back his progress; rising surely, step by step, into a clearer country, and a higher ground of knowledge and love.

And ever, from his latest stand-point, the ehase more and more resolves into order; the horizon widens, the heavens grow warmer; life's common words are quick with meaning; while, close involved in his being, as child with mother, life's one purpose greatens in his soul!

To grow better!

Dream at thine ease in the quiet, oh! gentlo indolent; prattle thy harmless rhymes to the few left in the valley; but from the mountain top I see the people in progress! Humanity is awakening; the fountains of the great deep of selfishness are broken, and mighty issues of right and wrong disturb the earth to its centre; wrongs are being righted, sorrows are being healed; Slavery trembles, despotisms are dismayed—everywhere. The angels of progress are busy between earth and heaven. Dream on, poor deluded, thou hast sold thy birthright; thou hast exchanged thy world awakening olarion for a reed. Thou has lagged on the journey, and lo! the universe is moving on without thee.

To grow better!

For this the true soul toils and struggles, welcoming the joys of life, and braving the pains. Nor needs an earnest man to put aside one joy which the Father has thrown in his pathway: he must enjoy; for to him who strives, comes strength; to him who toils, comes rest; to him who seeks, comes knowledge; to him who loves, comes love.

Not unmarked of his reverent eye the world of beauty and poesy; to him is the charm of woods and waters ever new; the little birds delight him, and the changing heavens are a perpetual wonder.

But the beautiful is a means of his life, and not the end; he pauses to pluck the violets in his pathway, but they may not entangle his feet to keep him from the toils of the day.

He walks, unharmed, the enchanted ground of passion, and to him its pleasures are not a weakness, but a glory and strength.

He lives from military law, to enjoy civil rights and protection under it. He is to be promised that passports will become more facile, and the transit from State to State less troublesome and annoying.

The few particulars gathered from China, in addition to former news, furnish no facts worthy of comment, unless we attach importance to a loose report that the imperialists had been beaten by the insurgents, in an attack, where the former were assisted by foreign aid. We cannot believe that the neutrality so wisely proclaimed by every "outside barbarian" has been violated; and until it is, if it were so, it ought to be on the other side. From the mass of documents and publications now deluging the press on Chinese matters, we see strong reasons for confirming us in the opinion we expressed in a previous letter, as to the original ground-work, character, and objects, of the insurrection. It is evident that a strange corruption of Christianity has been grafted upon Pagan and Confucian principles. But it is very difficult to understand the real state of the case. The accounts from the seat of war are sufficiently obscure, but the darkness is increased by the imperfect knowledge of the language in which they are communicated. The best informed English journals have not touched upon this important point; but readers may appreciate the difficulty when we notice the single fact that the word or words signifying "Elder Brother" and "Younger Brother," so remarkable as applied to Jesus and to the leader of the insurrection, are familiar, and do not involve the sense in which they have been received in Europe! The Emperor of China himself is styled Elder Brother, as a term of respect and reverence; and unless he addresses a foreign sovereign as Whang, it is known that he does not recognise him as an equal or independent monarch. Words are, indeed, real things in the curious country; and we will not be surprised if the imperialists still we learn to comprehend a condition of men so unlike our own.

Of English home news there is nothing of consequence to transmit. There are to be no betting-house tolerated after the 1st of December; and a verdict against the Manchester and Yorkshire railroad, to the amount of £7,300 for one set of accidents, (including a life lost,) are hailed as a significant indication that it is to be a bad pecuniary speculation to play with lives and limbs quite so heedlessly as heretofore. England cannot readily reconcile itself to such matchless explosions as seem hardly to content the people of the States, where everything is on a grand scale.

Our clergy tried to get up a synod on the 18th, to bring the disputes, &c., of the Church under discussion; but the Archbishop of Canterbury jockeyed them, and they departed (though not in peace) as they came.

By far the most important feature of the time, however, is the condition and prospects of the harvest. The spring has been become wet, stormy, and unsettled; and so sensitive is the country with regard to these alternations, that a shower day produces more effect upon the public mind than the calmest day in June with grand ceremonies and rejoicings, to Maria, cousin of the aforesaid Emperor, and daughter of his uncle, the Archduke Frederick, Palatine of Hungary.

WOMEN AND LADIES.—In the days of our fathers, there were such things to be met with as men and women; but now they are all gone, and in their place a race of gentlemen and ladies, or, to be still more refined, a race of "ladies and gentlemen," has sprung up. Women and girls are among the things that increase in amount of importations to Cuba. It appears that the whole of this violation of treaties is attributable to the faithlessness of the Spanish Government, the negligence of Cuban Governors, and their abetting by parties of wealth, station, and influence, in the mother country, by whose means, indeed, the traffic is principally carried on.

Lord Brougham put a question to the noble lord the Secretary for Foreign Affairs. He understood that a person named Zulueta, the owner of the barracoons at Lady Suffolk, and a notorious slavedealer, had been arrested in Cuba, but in a few days afterwards he had been released, and had gone back to the Havana, where he had held a meeting of the persons most notoriously engaged in slave-trading, and it was stated to be in furtherance of the proceedings of the Government of Cuba, who was strongly suspected of having given, on all occasions, unwilling aid to the traffic, by refusing to give information, and taking active measures for abolishing the slave traffic. He wished to know whether the noble earl had received any authentic information on the subject?

The earl said he had not only seen the statement, but that a short time ago the Consul-General of Cuba reported that, as he understood, in consequences of very stringent instructions from Spain, no improvement had taken place with reference to the abolition of the slave trade, and that most severe measures were being taken for its suppression. He had received this intelligence but three weeks ago, and had sent it to the Committee of the House of Commons then sitting on the slave trade. Among other facts stated by the Consul-General was the arrest of the Governor of Manzanilla, who was said by his noble and learned friend to be a notorious slave-dealer. He added also that such an arrest was a measure so unusual in the island of Cuba, that it spread consternation amongst the slave-traders, and he could not doubt that a good result would be produced by it. He had certainly seen an account of Zulueta's having been released, but he had no official knowledge of the fact.

The trade having been put down in the Brazils, and the sale of human beings, except within the bounds of Africa itself, ceased throughout the world, it was hoped that, with every eye fixed upon this its last stronghold, the iniquity cannot long survive the exposure. Fanaticism has nothing to do with this great moral and political question, and we may rest assured that bigotry and intolerance are more likely to retard than to hasten the solution of this the most important of all social problems. Before man inhabited the world it was filled with huge and monstrous shapes; man was created, and from the monster period has been gradually advancing, but us imagine, towards perfection. In this progress all that is foul and deteriorating must gradually clear away, and let us only remember that the blots cannot be removed and the evils remedied by dark vicence and passionate precipitancy, which are themselves blots and evils. No, reason and caution are needed for the welfare alike of the white and the black, the free man and the slave. Then, pursuing steadfastly the onward course we have indicated as possible, man, having fulfilled his mission on earth, may become extinct, like the monsters that preceded him, and the great globe be inhabited by angelic natures, of whom we can have as little conception as the Iguanodon or Saurian had of us their successors!

THE TEST OF SPHERE.—T. W. Higginson, a brave reformer and a capital writer, settles the question of women's sphere very satisfactorily, as follows:

"The test of sphere is success. If Miss Miller can walk the quarter deck; if Madame Grango can argue cases in court; if Mrs. W. can conduct the complex business transactions of a great Paris house; if Maria Mitchell can discover comets, and Harriet Hosmer carve statues; if Appolonia Jagiello can fight in European revolution, and Mrs. Putnam vindicate another, (besides having the gift of tongues;) if Harriet Hunt can really cure disease, and Lucretia Mott and Antoinette Brown can preach good sermons, and Mrs. Swisshelm and Miss Nichols edit successful papers, then all these are points gained forever, and the case is set at rest for ha. Nor can any one of these be set aside as an exceptional case, until it is shown that it is not, on the other hand, a test case—each person being a possible specimen of a large class who would, with a little less discouragement, have done the same things."

LONDON PENCILINGS.

FROM OUR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT.

Mem. A good many years ago, the annexed lines were published in a periodical by your correspondent. As they were probably never seen out of London, and the sentiment is laudable, whatever may be indifferent in the poetry, they are now submitted for a corner in the *Era:*

WASHINGTON'S MONUMENT.

For him who sought his country's good
In plains of war and seas of blood,
Who, in the battle's doubtful fray,
Spent the warm noon of life's bright day,
That to the world he might unfold
Rights that forever shall endure,
Rear the Monument of Fame!
Deathless is the Hero's name.

For him whose worth, though unexpressed,
Lives cherished in each freeman's breast,
Whose memory all hearts must claim,
Time's latest children shall revere;
Whose brave achievements praised shall be,
While beat one pulse for liberty,
Rear the Monument of Fame!
Deathless is the Hero's name.

But why for him vain marbles raise?
Can the cold sculptures spread his praise?
Illustrious shade, we can proclaim
Our gratitude, but not thy fame.
Long as the world shall be free,
She lives a Monument of thee!
And may she ever rise in fame,
Long as the Monument remains.

The First Ball made by a Submarine Telegraph.—"The *Monteur* contains a long series of decrees, making appointments in the Councils-*General*, &c., but none of them are of any general interest."

Mr. J. Gibson Lockhart, the son-in-law of Sir Walter Scott, author of many popular works, one of the early contributors to, together with Wilson, brought Blackwood's Magazine into so great celebrity, and, since the death of Mrs. Clifford, editor of the Quarterly Review, has been obliged by ill health to relinquish the toil of that publication. He is now on a visit to his native Scotland, the seat of his family being in Lanarkshire; but his purpose is to spend the winter in Italy, and spend the winter in Rome. His return will necessarily depend upon the state of his health; meanwhile, there is an important place to be supplied in English literature.

While your republicanism is so far like heaven, that on this side of the Atlantic we rarely hear of your magnates being married or given in marriage, you will perceive that the monarchs in Europe are providing for the succession of dynasties. But nothing could ever interrupt them. The Emperor of Austria is upon the point of marrying a Bavarian Princess; and the Prince of Brabant, the heir apparent of Belgium, has been united, with grand ceremonies and rejoicings, to Maria, cousin of the aforesaid Emperor, and daughter of his uncle, the Archduke Frederick, Palatine of Hungary.

REPLY OF LORD JOHN RUSSELL TO MR. EVERETT.—An official correspondence is published in the English papers, between Lord John Russell and Minister Crampton, respecting the proposition for a tri-partite treaty, in order to guaranty to Spain the continued possession of the island of Cuba. The answer of Mr. Everett, the late Secretary of State, to this extraordinary proposition on the part of England and France, formed the chief theme of Lord John's comments. Mr. Everett, it will be recollected, declared that "the United States would not see with indifference the island of Cuba in the hands of any other of any other European Government than Spain." By way of response, Lord John, while admitting the right of this country to reject the proposal, pointedly observes that "*the United States would not assume her entire liberty, and, upon any occasion that may call for it, be free to act, either singly or in conjunction with other Powers, as to her may seem fit.*"

We see Southern editors commending, in warm terms, the recent decision of Judge McLean, delivered upon the rendition of a fugitive slave at Cincinnati, Ohio. The Judge affirms the constitutionality of the Fugitive Slave Law, but he promulges opinions as deadly abolition and unconstitutional as Greeley, Gerrit Smith, or Garrison, ever announced. These opinions are extra-judicial, and, instead of commending, the press should condemn him for his impudence in pushing private opinions forward under the sanction of his judicial ermine, giving to them, by this trick, the sanction of law.

Southern (Miss.) Standard.

The New York *Tribune* is very ready to advise Free-Soilers to go in with the Whigs on the Maine Law issue in those States where the Whigs generally favor the Maine Law. But it is not half so ready to urge Temperance Whigs to support Free Soil candidates on the same issue in the States where the Whig party is opposed to the Law.—*Oneida Telegraph.*

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G. BAILEY.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1853.

☞ The letters of our New York and Foreign correspondents were received too late for insertion last week. They will be found on the first and fourth pages of this sheet. *

THOMPSON'S BANK NOTE DETECTOR states that new bills, purporting to be on the *Mechanics' Bank*, Georgetown, D. C., were recently put in circulation at Boston. They are worthless, though well-executed. Look out for them. *

FACTS FOR THE PEOPLE.

The October number of this monthly is now ready for delivery. It contains: Does the Constitution require free men to hunt Fugitive Slaves? Opinion of Judge Kane on the clause of the Constitution relating to fugitives from service; and a continuation of the Southern Platform, or Manual of Southern Sentiment on the subject of Slavery.

The design of this publication is for preservation, as a document for reference, or for general circulation. Its cheapness should commend it to general favor. Six copies to one address, $1; 20 do., $3; 100 do., $12. Back numbers can still be supplied. Those desiring it should send in their orders without delay. *

NEW YORK POLITICS—MR DIX.

The united Democracy of New York are anything but harmonious. It will be remembered that, three years ago, the Hunkers and Barnburners resolved to bury the hatchet, and unite to secure the election of a Democratic President on the basis of the Compromise measures. The union was effected—a Compromise Democrat is in the Presidential chair—but Democratic harmony is not secured, the feud between the two wings is as bitter as ever, and the quarrel seems to be irreconcilable. The Hunkers, or "Adamantines," under the lead of ex-Senator Dickinson, Edwin Croswell, and others, will have no fellowship with the Barnburners, or "Softs," under the lead of John Van Buren, Preston King, H. B. Stanton, &c.

The recent State Convention, which met at Syracuse on Tuesday, 13th instant, afforded an opportunity for these loving brethren to exhibit their feelings toward each other. The Convention met at Brintnall's Hall. M. C. Story, of the General Committee, called the meeting to order, and nominated Ira P. Barnes as chairman. John B. Skinner was also nominated, and both were declared to be elected, and taken to the platform. Messrs. Skinner and Barnes, after some discussion, declared their willingness to submit to the decision of the delegates. A resolution was carried to moot at the City Hall at 4 o'clock. The hard-shell delegates afterwards met at the Globe Hotel, and elected the following officers:

Minor C. Story, President; John Dimon, N. Barrits, Robert McClellan, D. D. Campbell, J. Ruger, James Grant, Thomas J. Reynolds, and R. H. Shankland, Vice Presidents; Gideon J. Tucker, J. H. Hutchins, Peter Romaley, A. Veruam, and J. S. Mathew, Secretaries.

This Convention subsequently made the following nominations for State officers:

Secretary of State—George W. Clinton; Attorney General—James T Brady; State Engineer—John B. Fay; State Treasurer—D. C. Watson; Comptroller—John E. Cooley; Canal Commissioner—John C. Mather; State Prison Inspector—M. W. Bennstt; Judge of Appeals—Charles H. Ruggles; Judge for short term—H. M. Denio; Clerk of Appeals—P. S. Bowne.

They then adopted a series of resolutions, endorsing the platform adopted at Baltimore in 1852; the doctrines promulgated by President Pierce, in his inaugural address, in favor of the "acquisition of certain possessions not within our jurisdiction, as eminently important for our protection;" that "the Fugitive Slave Law shall be faithfully endorsed," and for the enlargement of the canals. A resolution was also adopted complimentary of ex-Senator Dickinson.

The following are the resolutions relating to the Slavery question:

Resolved, That the Democracy of the State of New York reaffirm the doctrine of the inaugural, "that involuntary servitude, as is exists in different States of this Confederacy, is recognised by the Constitution; that it stands in any other admitted right, and that the States where it exists are entitled to efficient remedies to enforce the constitutional provisions"—that "the laws of 1850, commonly called the 'Compromise measures,' are strictly constitutional, and ought to be unhesitatingly carried into effect"—that "the constitutional authorities of this Republic are bound to regard the rights of the South in this respect, as they would view any other legal and constitutional right, and that the laws to enforce them should be respected and obeyed, not with the reluctance encouraged by abstract opinions as to the propriety in a different state of society, but cheerfully, and according to the decisions of the tribunal to which their expositions belong;" and that the Democratic party of this State stands pledged, so far as it depends upon the political and personal action of its members, that every law adopted by the constituted authorities of the United States, including the Fugitive Slave Law, shall be faithfully enforced within the limits of this State.

Resolved, That this Convention reaffirm the following resolution, adopted by the New Hampshire Democratic State Convention, June 9th, 1853:

"*Resolved*, That in the judgment of this Convention, the platform adopted by the late Baltimore Convention cannot be regarded as a *compromise of principle*, nor as an amnesty to factions that have for years been arrayed against the Democratic party and the Union, except upon the condition of unqualified recognition of, and adherence to, its principles, and undoubted assurance of future fidelity and devotion to the Democratic cause.

The soft-shells met, according to agreement, at Brintnall's Hall. A short adjournment took place; after which, Abraham T. Grant was elected President.

This Convention nominated the following ticket:

Secretary of State—Isaac A. Verplanck; Comptroller—Rob't Kelly; Attorney General—Martin Grover; State Treasurer—Francis Segur; Canal Commissioner—Andrew J. Yeator; Prison Inspector—Wm. C. Deyer; State Engineer—William H. Bristow; Judges of Appeal Court—C. H. Ruggles for the long term, and Hiram Denio for the short term; Clerk of Appeals—Albert Edgerton.

The telegraph brings the following report:

"Henry S. Randall was offered the nomination of Secretary of State, but declined; H. B. Stanton withdrew his name for the Attorney Generalship, and John B. Miller declined the office of Treasurer. The nominations were made with great unanimity; and after they were completed, the Adamantine or hard-shell resolutions, endorsing the National and State Administrations, the Inaugural Address, the Baltimore Platform, the Compromise measures, and strongly denouncing any further agitation of the Slavery question, were passed; speeches in their favor being made by Messrs. Grover, Van Buren, Preston King, Cochran, and Champlain. The Convention adjourned in great glee, after a vote of thanks to the officers."*

So, then, the degradation is complete. The Barnburners have succumbed, and endorsed the Compromise measures. John Van Buren, Preston King, and others, "strongly denounced any further agitation of the Slavery question," and then adjourned "in great glee." Both wings of the Democracy of New York stand on the same platform, and the quarrel is altogether one of men—whether Gov. Marcy and the "Softs" shall triumph, or Daniel S. Dickinson and the "Hunkers." What a despicable picture is here presented, of a great political party quarreling solely about MEN. Let us cast a veil over it.

It will be remembered that in 1848 the name of John A. Dix appeared on the Van Buren electoral ticket of New York, which was strongly committed to the interests of Freedom as of paramount importance. Mr. Dix has been appointed, by President Pierce, to the office of Assistant Treasurer of New York, with the promise, it is said, of the vacant mission to France. The clamor of Mr. Dix's rivals has prevented the fulfillment of this promise, and some additional evidence of his adhesion to the Baltimore platform is required. This evidence is forthcoming. Here it is:

Senator Dix and the Fugitive Slave Law.—The annexed letter from the Hon. John A. Dix, now holding the office of Sub-Treasurer in this city, will be read with satisfaction by Conservative Democrats, without reference to what in some important particulars his views have been misunderstood.—*Journal of Commerce.*

From the Augusta (Ga.) Constitutionalist, Sept. 9.

We publish below, a letter received by a gentleman, well known to our readers, from Mr. Dix, in which he speaks for himself, and we are perfectly willing to leave it to every citizen of the State—Whig or Democrat—to say if Mr. Dix has been a member of an Abolition or Free-Soiler, than is Millard Fillmore, or Thomas Corwin, or Daniel Webster.

Mr. Dix's letter was written in answer to one addressed to him, touching his views on the Slavery and Compromise measures. Here it is. Read it, people of Georgia, and then give a rebuke to the Toombs and Stephens faction that will teach them that, although the people may be deceived once, they will not be so long have put their trust, that if deceived the second time, it will be their own fault.

Mr. Dix's Letter.

NEW YORK, *Aug.* 31, 1853.

DEAR SIR: I have just received your favor of the 26th instant, in which you say that I am represented by Whig presses and itinerant orators in Georgia as an Abolitionist, &c., and I thank you for the opportunity you have afforded me of saying in reply:

1st. That I am not, and never have been, an Abolitionist, in any sense of that term. On the contrary, I have been an open and uniform opponent of all Abolition movements in this State and elsewhere, since they commenced in 1835, to the present time. While in the Senate of the United States I opposed the extension of Slavery in free territory—a question entirely distinct from that which I should have met were it already exists. In the latter case, I have steadily opposed all external interference with it.

2d. That I have on all occasions—public and private—since the Fugitive Slave Law passed, declared myself in favor of carrying it into execution in good faith, like every other law of the land.

3d. That I was in favor of the union of the Democracy of this State, which was consummated in 1850, continued in 1851 on the basis of the Compromise measures, and in 1852 on the basis of the Baltimore platform.

4th. That I have, since the Baltimore Convention, in June, 1852, repeatedly given my public assent to its proceedings and acquiesced in its declaration that the adjustment of the slavery questions, by which I was willing to abide.

On these points I may write you more fully in a few days; and in the mean time you are at liberty to make this brief reply to your note as you may think proper.

I am, dear sir, very respectfully, yours,
Dr. I. P. Garvin. JOHN A. DIX.

Mr. Dix does not declare the Fugitive Slave Law a *finality*, but he is in favor of carrying it into execution in good faith. Will this letter satisfy the jealousy of the South, and procure for Mr. Dix the mission to France? We will see.

The proceedings of the Independent Democratic Convention of New York, which we published last week, are in striking contrast with the inharmonious proceedings of the Hunkers and Barnburners. Democrats of principle in the Empire State, in view of the disgraceful exhibition presented by these factions, and their manifest want of political integrity, will not hesitate to support the ticket nominated on the Pittsburgh platform, instead of that which compels adherence to the Fugitive Slave Law! The former declares Liberty to be the great National interest—it is not a sectional interest, and makes no warfare upon the constitutional rights of any portion of the Confederacy. The fathers of the Republic looked forward with hope and confidence to the extinguishment of chattal Slavery, and it is no portion of Democratic principles to nationalize the institution of Slavery. Democrats of New York—you who in 1846 declared your unalterable determination to oppose the further extension of slavery—will you now acquiesce in the resolution to oppose the agitation of this question? Will you countenance and support the Fugitive Slave Law, and give in your adhesion to the Hunker policy, which makes the support of this infamous measure the test of your right to the title of Democrat? Let the ballot-box record your answer. *

* Since the foregoing was written, we have received the resolutions passed by the "Softs" at their Convention. The *Post* characterizes them "as thoroughly Pro-Slavery as the most impenetrable Adamantine could desire." We subjoin those relating to the Slavery question:

Resolved, That we reaffirm, as a fixed and settled feature of the political creed of the Democracy of New York, a firm adherence to the broad national position established by the resolutions constituting the Baltimore Platform of June, 1852, and the sound and patriotic declaration announced to the world in the inaugural address of President Pierce.

Resolved, That under the sacred pledges of the Constitution, our sister States possessing the institution of Slavery are entitled to efficient remedies to enforce their constitutional rights to the surrender of fugitive slaves—a right which the Democracy of New York unhesitatingly recognise, and are ever ready honestly to support; and that the laws to enforce the same should be respected and obeyed, not with a reluctance encouraged by abstract opinion as to their propriety in a different state of society, but cheerfully and according to the decisions of the tribunal to which their exposition belongs.

Resolved, That the Democracy of this State having, in letter and spirit, adopted the principles embodied in the resolutions of the National platform, now in convention assembled, repeats a portion of that platform, as indicating a past connection of unqualified trust.

[The 9th section of the Baltimore platform is here inserted, denying the power of Congress over the democratic institutions of the State—denouncing the efforts of the Abolitionists, and others, in their endeavors to induce Congress to take incipient steps in relation thereto, calculated to lead to the most alarming and dangerous consequences, endangering the stability and permanency of the Union, and ought not to be countenanced by any friend of our political institutions; and that act was pronounced constitutional irreparably, or so changed as to destroy or impair its sufficiency.]

Resolved, That the Democratic party will resist all attempts at renewing, in Congress or out of it, the agitation of the Slavery question, under whatever pretext the attempt may be made.

Re-written for the National Era.

THE AUTUMN LEAF.

BY BLANCHE BENNAIRDE.

I saw the budding trees put on their dress
In Spring's sweet season, when she clothes the earth
In richest emerald robes, as if to bless
For absence long, and make us feel her worth;
Nor did I dream that soon would dread decay
Come o'er their forms, and steal their charms away.

I only saw the present; which to me
Is ever bright and fair, unless a storm
Darkens above my head; and then I see
No way to walk, but hide near Hope's fair form.
Then Disappointment comes, and takes away
The things I love, though long with Hope I stay.

The birds that once delighted now are flown;
Summer has gone, and chilling winds come near,
That tell of Winter with a dismal tone,
Yet Hope is with me, and I cannot fear;
For though I lose the birds that sweetly sing,
The Winter's short—they come again in Spring.

I see the autumn leaf, crimson and gold,
That trembles in the air, though but a breath
Is stirring; and to lift doth scarcely hold,
Yet fondly clings between its life and death.
Like beautiful is autumn, just to leave,
Like the beloved and dear, whose loss we grieve.

And in its fall, how like to man it lies
On the cold earth, to moulder and decay—
Its place scarce missed, though long before the eyes
It stood with others in a bright array.
Now it has fallen, and awhile we mourn,
Because from sight its cherished form is torn.

Thou Autumn Leaf, wither away and fall;
I would not murmur, though I ne'er may see
Another Spring, and with it thee or thy sister call
Bring back the leaf and blossom to the tree;
I know she will return, and thus restore
Thy buried charms, though I am here no more.

No more on earth! Yet, yet beyond the tomb
I see a form that over doth appear,
When earth is dark and overspread with gloom,
My path is brighten, and my heart to cheer.
'Tis thou, blessed Hope, the angel of my way,
With whom, through darkest night, I see the day.

THE ADMINISTRATION.

The New York *Evening Post* makes the most of the crumb of comfort contained in our article of week before last, declaring that the clerks and heads of departments are attentive to the duties of their offices. Since that article was written, we have been informed of some facts which indicate that our statement must be received with some grains of allowance. An Illinois correspondent of that prigt compliments the Post Office Department on the "great regularity and despatch" of the mails in that State since the advent of the new Administration. This may be true of Illinois, but there is great room for improvement in this respect in other States. The Virginia papers complain greatly of the mail irregularities in the Old Dominion, and there is abundant evidence to show that a great number of postmasters in that State are notoriously derelict of their duty in refusing to deliver, and in some instances actually destroy, the papers addressed to subscribers and to better men in their places—men who will respect their oaths, and faithfully perform the duties of their appointment. We trust the *Post* will shortly have occasion to compliment the Administration upon a reform in this particular, which is so greatly needed.

In some instances, we learn, competent and attentive clerks have been displaced to make room for others who were without qualifications, and with no recommendation but their partisan character. This policy the *Era* never defended, and the Administration would do well to act upon Jefferson's requirements of fitness for public office: "Is he honest?—Is he capable?" before removing good men to make places for brawling partisans. *

ORGANS.

Have we an organ among us? is yet an undecided question. The *Union* is almost universally regarded as a wind-broken instrument, and its music as harsh and discordant. Since the appearance of the Russian article in its columns—which article the *Union* has not contradicted—the Democracy look with disfavor upon the *Union* and its music. It is true that its author, Mr. Pryor, was sent "back to Old Virginny," but he had to use the columns of the *Intelligencer* to explain the circumstances of his publication while the *Union* remained silent under the exposure.

The *Evening Star*, a new penny paper started in this city, is by some regarded as aspiring to the character of an organ. It publishes the decisions of the Government officers, the removals and appointments of clerks, and—receives the printing of the Departments! It was established as an independent paper, but can see no wrong in the Administration.

Beverly Tucker's *Washington Sentinel*, which is yet in embryo, it is said will be an organ; but whether of the President, or of the steamship monopoly, does not yet appear. It will make its appearance next week, when we may judge of the character of its music.

The Administration, it is said, is about to establish an organ in New York, with Col. Forney, formerly of the *Pennsylvanian*, as chief musician. The purpose was, we understand, to purchase the *National Democrat* for Colonel Forney, and transform it into an organ; but, from some cause, the negotiation failed. It is somewhat remarkable that the Democratic city of New York is now without a Democratic newspaper. The *Union* has read the *Evening Post* out of the party, and the other day it performed the same operation on the *National Democrat*. Under these circumstances, it is highly important for the President to have an organ in New York, to restore harmony to the unterrified Democracy of that benighted city. Indeed, we may say the whole State needs some powerful organism to cause the people to "conquer their prejudices," and hunt fugitive slaves with alacrity. The music of Col. Forney's organ may be sufficiently powerful to secure this result; but we must be permitted to doubt, until we see the proof of its potent power.

The Scripture says, that "in a multitude of counsellors there is safety"—probably the President thinks the same remark will apply to a multitude of organs. We certainly see advantage—that different tunes may be played on the different instruments, without holding the Administration accountable for them. If the music should prove to be distasteful to the popular ear, the organist may be compelled to endorse it as his own; if otherwise, the Administration will have the honor and credit of introducing new music, and will receive the popular applause. If the organist, for the edification and glory of his country, submits to the "heads I win, tails you lose" policy, we don't see why we should complain. Upon the whole, we rather think that organs are useful in their way; and, if we have not, we ought to have, "an organ among us." *

THE POST ON THE SYRACUSE RESOLUTIONS.

The New York *Evening Post*, which condemned the Baltimore platform while accepting its candidates, thus speaks of—

The Syracuse Resolutions.—We copy below the resolutions passed by the two divisions of the Democratic party, at the Conventions held in Syracuse. We have been careful to designate each series by the name of the patron to which they belong, in order to enable the reader to discover the difference. It will be seen, however, that those of the Unionists are vastly superior in one respect to the other set—they give in their adhesion to the Compromises, to a Fugitive Slave Law, rather than to *the* Fugitive Law.

The reasoning of the *Post* is defective. The superior resolutions are those which say what they mean, and mean what they say, without shuffling, ambiguity, or evasion. The quibble that the resolutions of the "Softs" strive in their adherence, in general terms, to a Fugitive Slave Law, rather than to *the* Fugitive Law," is unworthy of the *Post*. It "gives the word of promise to the ear but breaks it to the hope." The *Post* had better sink the partisan, and adhere to its manliness. Its friends will love it the better. Political platforms should use unmistakeable language, so that he who runs may read. Reason, no less than Scripture, enjoins, "Let your yea be yea, and your nay, nay." *

EX-SENATOR DANIEL S. DICKINSON.

It is well known that since President Pierce has appointed Mr. Marcy Secretary of State, Mr. Dickinson has been making war, through his friends, on the National Administration, and also on the State Administration of New York. The *Union* the other day gave a lick back, in the shape of a speech of Mr. Dickinson, made in 1847, or rather quotations from this speech, in which he admitted the constitutionality of the Wilmot Proviso, and announced himself as warmly in favor of the principle of it. Mr. D. publishes a letter in the N. Y. *Herald*, in which he accuses the *Union* of garbling his speech to convict him of entertaining Free-Soil sentiments. He says:

"I was honored with a seat in the Senate of New York State four years, and there introduced resolutions upon the subject of Slavery, and spoke and voted thereon; was President of the same body two years, and was seven years a Senator in Congress—from the annexation of Texas until after the passage of the Compromise measures. I have, too, for the last twenty years, often been a member of State Conventions, State, and national; have presented resolutions, made speeches, and proposed addresses; and if, in my whole political course, a speech, vote, or resolution can be found favoring Free-Soil sentiments, I will consent to occupy a position in the public judgment as degraded as the most malevolent of that (the Free Soil) faction, or its most convenient accomplice."

There is no doubt but that Mr. Dickinson at one time announced his determination to vote for the Wilmot Proviso, instructed or uninstructed; but he objected to the prohibition being inserted in an appropriation bill. All who know him, however, will do him the justice to say that he has always been the sturdy champion of the Slavery interest. He even went so far as to wish he "had been born in Virginia." The Virginia papers stand up manfully for him, and indicate their purpose to sustain him. On the other hand, those who wish to stand well with the "powers that be," denounce him. The quarrel promises to be a very pretty one. We take no side in the controversy; but we do like to see fair play. *

MASSACHUSETTS FREE DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION.

This body met at Fitchburg, Massachusetts, on Thursday last, and organized by appointing Hon. Moses Wood temporary Chairman. It is estimated that at least fifteen hundred strangers were present, and the Convention is represented as one of the most harmonious and enthusiastic political gatherings that ever met in the old Bay State. The following gentlemen were elected permanent officers:

President—Samuel G. Howe, of Boston.

Vice Presidents—Stephen C. Phillips, Bancroft of Boston; Essex—John B. Alley, of Lynn; Middlesex—Joseph T. Buckingham, of Cambridge; Worcester—Elisha Murdock, of Winchendon; Hampden—David Mosely, of Westfield; Hampshire—Samuel F. Lyman, of Northampton; Berkshire—Charles Wright, of Hinsdale; Franklin—Ashmun H. Taylor, of Heath; Norfolk—Edward L. Pierce of Dedham; Plymouth—Gershom B. Weston, of Duxbury; Barnstable—Obed Brooks, Jr., of Harwich; Bristol—Rodney French, of New Bedford; Dukes and Nantucket—Edward W. Gardner, of Nantucket.

Secretaries—Francis H. Underwood, of Cambridge; Simon P. Hanscom, of Boston; Alonzo M. Bowker, of Savoy; Edmund Anthony, of New Bedford.

The Convention was addressed by Hon. E. L. Keyes, Hon. Joseph T. Buckingham, and others. An excellent letter was read from Hon. Charles Sumner.

An admirable series of resolutions, reported by Hon. Francis W. Bird, were adopted. They will appear in our next issue.

The following gentlemen were chosen the Free Democratic State Committee:

Rodney French, New Bedford; Charles B. Swain, Nantucket; Gershom B Weston, Duxbury; Wm. Mitchell, Adams; Edward L. Keyes, Dedham; Francis W. Bird, Walpole; Chauncey Clark, Northampton; Wm. B. Spooner, Boston; Geo. F. Williams, Boston; Robert Carter, Cambridge; Ashmun H. Taylor, Charlemont; Caleb Swan, Easton; James M. Stone, Charleston; John B. Alley, Lynn; Richard P. Waters, Beverly; John W. Graves, Lowell; Moses Wood, Fitchburg; Amasa Walker, North Brookfield; D. W. Alvord, Greenfield; Marcus Morton, Jr., Andover; Wm. Clafin, Hopkinton; Nathaniel Hinckley, Barnstable; Charles C. Dalrymple, Dukes; Charles Wright, Hinsdale; Francis Bates, Springfield.

The number of towns represented was over 200, and on a vote for a candidate for Governor, Hon. Henry Wilson had 610 votes, the whole number of votes being 616. After a short address from Mr. Keyes, Hon. Henry Wilson addressed the Convention. His remarks were received with much applause.

Hon. Amasa Walker, of North Brookfield was nominated for Lieutenant Governor, having 402 votes.

The *Commonwealth* announces that the Free Democracy is gaining accessions from the Whigs—among the most prominent of whom are Hon. Henry Lee, Hon. Joseph Wright, and Charles Wright, Esq., of Hinsdale. The Free Democracy of Massachusetts exhibit an invincible purpose to carry the State this fall. May they be successful. *

HON. NARTON S. TOWNSEND, we are pleased to see, is nominated for the State Senate, by the Independent Democracy of Lorain and Medina counties, Ohio. Dr. T. was a Representative in the late Congress, and ably sustained the cause of Freedom and Democracy. We trust he will be elected. *

JESSE BALDWIN, Esq., has been nominated by the Independent Democracy of Trumbull and Mahoning counties, as their candidate for State Senator. *

NOTES FROM THE GRANITE LAND.

CONCORD, N. H., *Sept.* 14, 1853.

To the Editor of the National Era:

The *Era*—blessed be it—is welcomed at many a gay fireside in our cold, rock-ribbed State. It goes into our farm-houses and workshops, among the young man and young woman, starting up a generous echo in their warm, stout hearts. This, I have remarked—it is found particularly among *the thinking* and more progressive class of minds among us—those who read, and who *know* something after they have read. It is thus, I trust, doing its blessed work here as in other sections of the Union.

But I do not see that the *Era* has much correspondence from this State. And our "down east," generally, has been rather barren or backward, in this *social* support of the paper—always excepting our faithful watchman, the Corresponding *Editor*, who, when health and strength permit, is ever ready with his word "fitly spoken."

The thought has struck me that a rough, *granite* word might, now and then, be acceptable; partly, to show that we are *alive*, and to mingle a little variety with the tenderer and sunnier songs of our Southern and Western friends. If so, give me an humble corner in the *Era*, and allow me occasionally to fill it. Without any pretension to grace, or "gift of gab," let me "speak right on" as occasion seems to dsmand; catching the politicians, if not the "manners, living as they rise." For, be it known, we have some spunky specimens of the former, who, as belligerents, are a *little* distinguished in dashing political skirmishes.

When Frank Pierce, wonder as it was, was elected President of the United States, the New Hampshire "Democracy" were ready to run wild with delight. They not only believed that "fortune, like females, still loves to bestow her favors on young men;" but each anxious soul of them dreamed that *his* hand was already as good as in Uncle Sam's pocket; and that the whole Granite Democracy were to "get on swimmingly," for *one* Presidential term at least. A more apparently good-natured and loving set of fellows was not to be found. They formed a strange contrast beside the poor, sad-faced, crest-fallen Whigs. Boisterous exultation on their part was a little cruel. But Hunker politicians, like corporations, "have no souls;" and they gave themselves up, with a perfect *abandon*, to the ecstacy of triumph. Alas! the world does not always wag as politicians desire it. The New Hampshire Hunkers have found a skeleton in *their* home. A little hub-bub is brewing in their camp, recently so jolly; and the dear knowing ones are somewhat puzzled in defining their position. There is an ominous scowl on the heavens—a trembling fear of the coming "noise and confusion" that probably awaits them.

Edmund Burke, ex-Commissioner of Patents, and late of the Washington *Union*, and known all over the country as an adroit, persevering, and able politician—a man, too, whom the N. H. Democracy has always been proud of—is now "pitching into" the New Hampshire *Patriot*, the great Democratic "organ" of the State, with a vengeance that smacks rather more of wrath than is compatible with a very loving spirit. It is pretented that this is only a *personal* quarrel between Burke and Butterfield, the editor of the *Patriot*. Time will show how true this is. The quarrel *may* end here. Burke has commenced the publication of the "Old Guard," (which, by the way, is now but one page of the State Capital Reporter, of this city,) and in this he is dealing out his anathemas, and threatening to "exterminate" the old editor of the *Patriot*. The war is exceedingly fierce on both sides. The belligerents fight, as none but "Democrats" *can* fight. The *Patriot* is intensely bitter, haughty, and self-conceited. The *Old Guard* is resolute, vigorous, and comes to "the scratch" with a will that betokens a terrible encounter. They hurl at each other the most dreadful denunciations and accusations. The past is ransacked for ammunition, and the most contributed all the energy materials in its armory. The assailant is not confronting each other each with the vow of annihilation on his lip. If the war *should* end in a mere Kilkenny squabble, probably few others will be harmed. We shall see.

But *why* this war? It is difficult to answer, perhaps, unless it be that our Granite Democracy "live to fight"—a little better than the President himself! It seems to be a kind of volcanic eruption—the out pouring of old, smothered fires—and the natural discharge of a good deal of *gas*.

The *Patriot*, however, charges Burke with being "a disappointed office-seeker;" and because he has not been sufficiently petted and pampered by the President, he is now secretly inimical to the Administration and desires to embarrass and traduce it. Burke, on the other hand, declares his fidelity to Democratic principles—his friendship for General Pierce—his hopes for his success. Still, he grumbles that the Administration has shown so much favor to the "Barnburnering" of the Democracy, North; and has been equally gracious towards the "disunionists" South. He charges that the *Patriot* has been tinctured with Wilmot Provisoism—is a Free-Soiler at heart—"a coalitionist," &c., and refuses to slaughter it "is a too bad; it is downright calumny. Why, the evil one himself never had any suspicions of the *Patriot's* fidelity in *that* quarter! But so charges Edmund Burke—declaring that the N. H. *Patriot* is unfit to represent the "national" Democracy, or be its organ, in New Hampshire. The *Patriot* goes for calling every thing "Democrat" that claims to be such, and welcomes "all hands" into the fold—Hunkers and Barnburners—Hards and Softs—Wild Cats and Wooly Heads. Burke is for stretching them all on the iron bedstead, and every one who is not of "national" length is to be excluded from the party. He goes for purging and purifying it—that is, taking off the heads of all who will not swear by the Slave Power.

Well, after all, there is some method in Burke's madness, or his devilry, whichever we may call it. And I have more respect for an out-and-out, straight-forward, *consistent devil* than for one of your double-faced, treacherous, sanctimonious, *Christian hypocrites*. Burke is for Slavery, straight out. He is *there*. The *Patriot* is "if" "but," "all-over-the-h," sneakish, slimy, grovelling—anti or pro, as its party, or its own selfish proclivities require—Satan or saint, according to the company it is in—sometimes coaxing and sometimes blasting Free-Sollers—but most generally a dough-face in the kneading-trough, and a blood-hound in the Man-Hunt. *That* is the N. H. *Patriot!* That is the great leading organ of the N. H. Democracy. No wonder that Burke is disgusted, and thinks the party needs a more respectable and reliable organ.

So stands the warring Democrats of New Hampshire. Burke declares that *his* paper, the *Old Guard*, shall be published till Butterfield is annihilated—driven from the field and from the *Patriot*. Butterfield defies him, and cries, "come on!" *Who* is to surrender? If Butterfield succumbs, then we shall have a victorious shout from the *Old Guard*; and Burke will have proved himself to be an inexorable foe—a man of restless energy, of indomitable will, and triumphant purpose. He will have made his mark, not on the New Hampshire Democracy only, but on the Democracy of the Union-Ere it from a terrible necessity, *he* should fall—crushed beneath the old relentless, *Patriot* dynasty—then there will be *an end of Edmund Burke* with the "Democracy" of this State. And when he is excommunicated, if he is to be, he will take rather a large slice of the "unterrified" with him. The contest is to be a very terrible one, or a very silly one. The assailants are to fight—to the very death, or they must very speedily "make up," bury the hatchet, and make themselves supremely ridiculous.

It is amusing to witness the dubious faces of the "Democracy" in regard to this contest, now apparently personal. Both the principals are equally confident, equally determined, and seemingly implacable. There is no calculating the result, especially while there is so much fog in the horizon, and so many trembling cowards who dare not avow their attachments either way. There is a mighty company of *fence men* just now among the N. H. Democrats in regard to the controversy. They know not which way to jump, although they are very anxious to leap somewhere. They are afraid if they *do* jump, of breaking their own necks. It is difficult to decide which is the greater, their terror or their quandary. But when the scale *does* appear to tip, and the result becomes clearly apparent, there will very soon be an ominous manifestation of *bravery*, and a terrible scrambling from the fence! These valiant fence-riders will forthwith come out red-hot, dyed-in-the-wool Burke men, or *Patriot* men, as the case may be. Brave Democrats, these!

As it is, we are having a fine exhibition of the omnipotence of Baltimore edicts against "agitation," and the delightful results of *healthy* "long drawn out." The old putrifying carcass of Hunkerism seems to be in a state of rapid decomposition. And when once dissolved, may its elements never again be gathered together into such a monster, to the disgrace of civilization, the trampling of Human Rights, and the hindrance of Human Progress. This little pitched battle in New Hampshire is only *one* of the Signs of the Times. In making so long a "note of it," I trust I am not attributing to it an undue significance. GRANITE.

SUMMARY.

Alleged Conspiracy.—J. E. Sharp, Wm. Cox and A. E. L. Keese, of this city—the two latter having published themselves as an "Independent Police"—were arrested last week, on a charge of conspiring to sell, and with having sold, out of the District of Columbia, as a slave for life, a negro woman about thirty years of age, who had only five years to serve. Justice Donn held the defendants to give bonds in the sum of $266.66 to appear at the next Criminal Court.

Wisconsin.—The Democrats of Wisconsin have nominated W. A. Barstow for Governor; J. T. Lewis for Lieut. Governor; A. P. Gray for Secretary of State; J. B. Smith for Attorney General; H. A. Wright for Superintendent of Public Instruction; and F. H. Janssen for State Treasurer.

A Good Movement.—A general meeting of the presidents and directors of the various railroads in the United States, we see it stated, will convene in this city during the month of October, to consider the adoption of a code of laws and the establishment of such general measures as shall guard against accidents on railroads, and give more confidence to travellers, and assurance that precautionary measures of the most reliable kind are hourly exercised upon every railroad throughout the Union. It is time that some such general movement was had, to insure the safety of railroad travellers, and we trust the convention will effect the objects for which it is called.

Progress in the South.—The Louisville *Journal* is publishing a series of articles on Slavery. The writer says:

"Slavery *is a crime, a wrong, and an unholy thing*; and now is the moment for all to unite their energies *to abolish it*, by a wise and gradual, but *effectual*, emancipation."

Spirit of the South.—The Michigan *Free Democrat* says: "A gentleman from New Orleans, a native of the South, who was in our sanctum a few days since, remarked that they who had always lived in the midst of Slavery know its evils better than any Northern man could tell them. They hated Slavery while the force of circumstances held them to it. But there was one thing they despised more than Slavery, and that was a silly, lying apology for it by a Northern man, who had no excuse for his mendacity. When Northern men, bred in the love of freedom and the perpetual assertion of it, attempt to sugar over Slavery, they know they lie; and Southern men know they are deliberately and wilfully lying, too."

The Wilkesbarre Fugitive Hunt.—The independent presses are speaking out in relation to the slave hunt which recently disgraced the "Vale of Wyoming." The Boston *Sunday News* says:

"As it is one of the legitimate fruits of the law about which so much has been said, it is worth recording, and still more worth reading. It presents three interesting features of American character: *first*, the base and cowardly conduct of the slave hunter; *second*, the glorious heroism of the hunted slave, who, with a noble American heart in his bosom, preferred death to Slavery; and *third*, the fact that such illustrations of heroism ever presented; *third*, the dastardly cowardice of the hundreds who witnessed a single man struggling for life and liberty, against an armed force, without *daring* to assist him, because he was a fugitive slave."

The Cuban Junta of New York, in a communication in the *Herald*, express their hostility to the annexation of Cuba to the U. States by purchase. They add to their former slight significant intimation:

"Prepared with sufficient forces, within and without the isle, to revolutionize it by force of arms, we, the sons of Cuba, aspire to that ideal as the only one which can give us honor and glory in acquiring the title to our sovereignty in the rank of nations; and if it were then the free will of the Cuban people to form part of the great American Confederation, liberty of action would be accompanied by the title which our efforts for the independence of our country, crowned with success, will have given us. It will not be a slave which asks in the Union confraternity and liberty, but free Cuba, exempt from every stain, and worthy, by its honorable antecedents, of entering into the family pact."

At the Temperance Convention in Boston, on the 12th instant, a resolution was passed, declaring that "this is a convention of men, according to common usage." Speeches were made by Elisha Huntington, of Lowell, Horace Mann, Rev. Mr. Chapin, and Rev. Theodore Parker.

A hackman, named Green, and one of the city watch, named Bloom, were arrested at Cincinnati on the 9th instant, on a charge of kidnapping a free mulatto, named Watkins. They had got Watkins into a carriage, and were carrying him off, when their progress was arrested by a mob.

A writer from the South says: "It may be new to most of your readers that there is danger of New Orleans yet becoming an inland town. The Bayou Plaquemine—a branch of the Mississippi—which sets out in nearly a straight line for the Gulf of Mexico, is rapidly enlarging itself; and unless something is done to check its progress, it will, in a few years, become the main channel. The Plaquemine sets off about 125 miles north of New Orleans,

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Republic is situated in the north-west part of South America, and includes the *Isthmus* of Panama, with the territory which extends westward to Central America. It is well known that for some time past a controversy has been going on between the priesthood and the people in relation to the civil government of the country, the former claiming supreme dominion. Church and State were united; but we are pleased to record that this unnatural connection has been severed, and a new order of things inaugurated. A New Grandian correspondent of the *Evening Post* dated the 24 instant says, that on that day the new Constitution was promulgated through out the Republic, and that the event was celebrated with enthusiasm by the people. He gives a synopsis of the new decree from manuscript copy:

"1. On and after this day will close all interference of the national or municipal authorities in regard to the presenting of persons for filling ecclesiastical benefices, and in regard to all religious matters. The State will support the Catholic worship, or *any other* worship which may be followed by the people of New Granada, in conformity with the liberty which is guaranteed them by section 1 of article 5 of the

LITERARY NOTICES.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE. September, 1853. Harper & Brothers, New York.

Harper opens with a description of "Arlington House," by Lossing. Mr. Abbott continues his flattering detail of Napoleon Bonaparte's life, in which he is often false to historical accuracy, as well as regardless of the morality of the lessons he inculcates. The Harpers have involved themselves in a difficulty, by republishing an article entitled *Uncle Barnard's Story*, which originally appeared in *Putnam's Magazine*, and which was copyrighted. We never liked the system practiced by Harpers, of publishing articles in their magazine, without the customary credit. They now print 125,000 copies of their magazine, and the demand seems undiminished. *

CHRISTIAN EXAMINER. September, 1853. Boston: Crosby, Nichols, & Co.

This number of the *Examiner* has seven articles: 1. Ewald's Hebrew History, by Rev. J. H. Allen; 2. Eliot's Lectures to Young Women, by Mrs. L. F. Hall; 3. Christ the Head, by Dr. Stebbins; 4. Peter's Doctrine of the Last Things, by W. R. Alger; 5. German Lyrics, by N. L. Frothingham; 6. Rationalism in Religion, by Rev. Oliver Stearns; 7. Christianity and Secularism, by Rev. G. E. Ellis. The article of Dr. Stebbins is of such a character as to move the hearts of Christians to renewed devotion, and is worthy an attentive perusal. The number closes with notices of Recent Publications. *

THE LADIES' WREATH. September, 1853. Edited by Helen Irving. New York: Burdick, Read, & Roberts.

This number is illustrated by an engraving, "Glory Won," and the Ruby-crowned Wren. The number is principally taken up with a story from the pen of Frank Willoughby. *

MARK HURDLESTONE, or the Two Brothers. By Jack Hoodie. Dewitt & Davenport, New York. For sale by Franck Taylor, Pa. avenue, Washington.

This work, from the author of "Roughing it in the Bush," is full of interest. The characters are well drawn, and the plot is regularly developed. Mark Hurdlestone, the miser, stands out in bold relief, and is as strongly marked in his features, as Rodin in the Wandering Jew. Such characters as his, we would fain hope, are exceedingly rare, and it is well for humanity that they are. The greed of gold in an originally noble nature warped the whole being, and made Mark a prodigy of selfishness. *

LIVING AGE, No. 486. Littell, Son, & Co. Boston.

This weekly visitor is ever welcome. It gives the cream of the European magazines. *

STUYVESANT; a Federalist Story, by the author of the Rollo Books. Harper & Brothers, New York.

Those who have read the Rollo books, and profited by them, will need no solicitation to read Stuyvesant. It is written in charming style, and children read it eagerly. *

THE NORTH BRITISH REVIEW. August, 1853. Republication of Leonard Scott & Co., New York.

The North British contains nine articles, the titles of which are—Theories of Poetry and a New Poet: One Colonial Empire and our Colonial Policy: Dr. Henry Marshall and Military Hygiene; The Text of Scripture; Free and Slave Labor; the Early Christian Life and Literature of Syria; the Grenville Papers and Junius: Germany in its Relations to France and Russia; and the Government of India.

The article on Free and Slave Labor refutes the assertion that Emancipation is a failure in the West fruitful controverts the theory of the *economy* of buying slaves instead of hiring servants; and denies that the condition of the English and Irish poor is as wretched and degraded as that of the slaves on the Southern plantations. *

INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENTS.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Susquehanna county.—A meeting was held at the Court House in Montrose on 6th instant. Wm. Foster, President: Ira Stevens and Nathaniel Barker, Vice Presidents: L. B. Hinds and Henry McKinny, Secretaries.

An organization was effected on the basis of the Pittsburgh platform, and the following persons appointed a county committee: Wm. Foster and Alfred Baldwin, of Montrose; Henry McKinny, of Great Bend; Tyler Brewster, of Harford; and Daniel Tewksberry, of Brooklyn.

Giles M. De Wolf, of Bradford county, was recommended for State Senate, and the following county ticket was placed in nomination:

Assembly—John S. Deans, of Bridgewater. District Attorney—L. P. Hinds, of Harmony. County Treasurer—Wm. Foster, of Montrose. County Commissioner—Chauncy Wright, of Forest Lake: County Surveyor—Benoni Tuttle, of Great Bend: County Auditor—John Webster, of Franklin.

VERMONT.

Lamoille county.—A county convention was held at Hydepark on 3d inst. Charles Goss presided. The following pertinent resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That standing as we do upon the platform adopted at Pittsburgh in 1852, August 11th, we have an indination to add thereto or take therefrom one single plank; and regarding it as a full and explicit declaration of our political principles and purposes, we have no occasion to waste our time in *resolves*; but will devote our energies to the final and complete triumph of these principles by always preferring measures to men.

County and town committees were appointed.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Norfolk county.—A meeting of the Free Democratic Club was held at Dedham on 3d inst., and the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—Hon. Edward L. Keyes.

Vice Presidents—Joseph Day, George Alden, E. B. Holmes, Samuel Sprague, Timothy Smith, George Fuller.

Executive Committee—George Alden, B. F. Baker, Oliver Pierce, ——— Downing, Levi R. Stowell, B. H. Tubbs, Addison Boyden, John Cox, jr., Sanford Carroll, H. Hitchings, E. G. Robinson.

OHIO.

Greene county.—A county convention was held at Xenia on 30th ult. John B. Lawrence, Chairman; George Watt, Secretary. Resolutions in favor of the Pittsburgh platform were adopted, and the following ticket placed in nomination:

For Representative—John F. Patton; Treasurer—George Monroe; Recorder—Jonathan Tuft; Commissioner—George Currie; Infirmary Director—David Mullen.

Ashtabula county—The County Convention met at Jefferson on the 6th inst. N. L. Chaffee presided. The following ticket was nominated:

Representative—J. R. Elwell; Sheriff—M. W. Wright; Treasurer—A. N. Wright; Pros. Attorney—Mason King: Recorder—Jas. Whitemore; Commissioners—S. S. Bushnell and D. D. Freer: Director Infirmary—L. Webster.

The Convention reaffirmed the Pittsburgh platform, and took strong ground in favor of the Maine Law.

Hon. L. S. Sherman was unanimously recommended as their first choice for State Senator from this district.

Geauga county.—The Nominating Convention met at Chardon on the 6th instant. S. P. Carlton presided. The following ticket was nominated:

Representative—Loomis Dow; Treasurer—J. S. Wright: Recorder—John French: Commissioner—H. D. Johnson; Director of Infirmary—Seth Brewster.

Franklin county.—A county convention met at Columbus on 27th ultimo. B. Trascuridor, Chairman; S. Haywood, Secretary. Resolutions declaring slavery and intemperance the great evils of society, were adopted, and the following ticket was nominated:

Senator—J. W. Durant, Blendon; Representatives, Almavitt, Thos. Allen, Wm. Slyh, Columbus; Sheriff—Dr. Thompson Bull, Clinton: Treasurer—Robert Robertson, Truro; Auditor—Emory Westervelt, Columbus; Commissioner—Archibald Patterson, Franklinton; Director—John Hiatt, Jackson; Infirmary Director—Elijah Glover, Columbus.

An Executive Committee of five was then chosen, as follows: Thos. Allen, Blendon; Emery Westervelt, L. L. Rice, Columbus; Dr. Thompson Bull, Clinton, Peter Garner, Plain.

ELECTION RETURNS.

VERMONT.

The Whigs are beaten in this old stronghold. The returns are incomplete, but enough is known to show that the Free Independent Democracy will hold the balance of power in the Legislature, and in the election of U. States Senator will be enabled to dictate the man. A slip from the office of the *Woodstock Age*, Dem., says:

"We have received returns from 230 towns—all but 10 in the State—which are reported to have elected 88 Whig, and 123 Democrats and Free-Soilers. The number of the latter we cannot at this time determine, but our present returns indicate not far from 30. The ten towns to hear from will not materially alter the complexion. The Senate is yet in doubt, but probably Whig by one or two majority."

As there is no choice of State officers, it will devolve upon the Legislature to elect these officers as well as a United States Senator. The Constitution of Vermont requires these elections to be made by joint ballot. As the Senate is Whig, it may delay action, by refusing to go into an election. Let us hope, however, that patriotism will triumph over party considerations. *

MAINE.

The latest figures of the Maine election returns foot up, in 60 towns, for Crosby, Whig, 31,722; Pillsbury, Dem., 29,425; Morrell, 9,480; Holmes, F. S., 7,349 The Augusta *Age* claims for the Senate 10 Democrats, 6 Whigs, 15 no choice; House, 60 Democrats, 54 Whigs, 9 Free-Sollers.

There is no choice of Governor by the people, but the Maine Liquor Law is sustained by a large majority. *

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE NATIONAL ERA.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

LONDON, *Sept.* 1, 1853.

To the Editor of the National Era:

CHINA.—In looking forward to what the civil war in China is likely to produce, it may be instructive to look a little back. By this we will perceive that no change can be for the worse, and that the more the impenetrable hedge of isolation from the human family is broken down, it must be for the better.

Till a very recent date, when a few concessions were yielded to the grim hotchets of successful war, the farming and overbearing of the Tartar dynasty of China was intolerable. English men were *man-ee*, barbarians, and not *Ying-le-Jin*, men of the English nation; and treated accordingly. The people were taught by proclamation to look upon all foreigners wherever they were met with; and justice was denied to their most reasonable complaints. As individuals, they were subjected to every wrong and contempt, and as a commercial element, to obieanery, fraud, and imposition.

Every obstacle was opposed to fair trade. No business was transacted between the real parties interested, but through agents. Even the great Hong merchant to the huckster of ivory balls and fans, everything was done by middle men, and the natural result was, plunder to enrich the latter, and the want of the right knowby which trade was checked, and the extension of a mutually beneficial intercourse prevented. Merchants were forbidden even to inquire what articles of European manufacture would be acceptable to the people; and a native informing them what articles of produce or manufactures could be obtained, and at what cost, from the producers, was liable to a very severe punishment. This knowledge of demand and supply was interdicted. All was kept in secrecy and mystery, and extravagant prices extorted wherever fancy or speculation induced a purchaser. It is therefore satisfactory to know that the least the insurrection can do will be to knock all this nonsense on the head, and open the markets of the country to an intercourse based on truth, founded on information and common interests. The skill and labor of the Chinese will be advantageously exchanged for the cheap and warm clothing produced by the mechanical machinery of northern moiety of the Celestial Empire has been overrun and conquered by the main flood of insurrection, made known to us as the captors of Nankin, and the present capital of Pekin, a leader pretending to a divine mission, and four great chiefs, claiming to be powers of the North, East, South, and West. Their extraordinary history, and origin of Christian laws and precepts with blasphemous pretensions, Old Testament massacres of men, women, and children, and the destruction of all idolatrous temples and their images, are the most remarkable features of their successful propagandism. Their last exploit recorded is the taking of Chin-Keang-foo, near Nankin, one of the strongest places in China, and at the junction of the grand canal with the river Yang-tse-kiang, and the key to the provisioning and strength of the northern provinces and the Tartar capital Pekin. It is with regret, that a naval attack by the Imperialists to recover this important post, was sanctioned by the presence and aided by the co-operation of European and American adventurers, so as to afford a color for the assertion that it was a conflict of Christianity with Christianity. Policy would dictate the avoidance of so injurious a course, the semblance of which is to be deprecated, as it is surely for the interest of mankind, if any aid is given, that it should be given to the other side.

In addition to this general view, it is evident, as stated in preceding letters, that there are other branches (if we may so call them) of conspiracies against the Manichoo supremacy working separately and on their own account, though all tending to the same end—the overthrow of that foreign dynasty, and the establishment of some other entire or divided government. Of other events, the beheading of the Tartar prisoners in Amoy by the Boston victorious there—the butchery of 20,000 Manchoo families at Nankin—the distress and privation said to prevail among the Chinese population of Pekin—the disaffection of the Mongol magnates throughout the country, and the ineffable cowardice displayed on every occasion by the Imperial forces, (including those that made the paltry attempt upon Chin-keang-foo, in company with Tartar soldiery,) we will say all that can be deemed data whereupon to form an opinion, until other arrivals, it may be presumed, must put us in possession of further facts. And that there is some important is evident; for the rival armies are in a position, and facing each other in the vicinity of Nankin, so that the first movement either way is big with the fates of Nankin and Pekin.

POLITICS.—Among political affairs more significant than actually important at the time, we may reckon the Belgian marriage, the pomps which have attended the ceremony, and the crowning review of a camp of 13,000 soldiers, by the wary King Leopold. Among the festivities, the introduction of an ancient German procession, such as used to embellish the Low Country fetes when an Austrian province, was not without its meaning; but the gallantries itself, and the whole of its appendages, served chiefly to show that the Government had overheard the whisper. If Russia dispoil Turkey, France will avenge itself on Belgium. Since then, indeed, matters have taken a different turn in the East; but there was something ominous in the *bruit*, and King Leopold is awake, to say, France, I do not like to trust thee, and will strengthen myself by new family alliances. My father-in-law is no longer King of the French. The House of Saxe Cobourg is wonderfully in the ascendant: and if family ties bestow solid, tangible power, is at this moment, by far the most powerful in Europe. It is a curious spectacle. The disappointment and jealousy of France in regard to the recent marriage, are openly expressed in the daily newspapers; and when the dumb are permitted to speak, we know whence the voice comes.

The anxious look out for the harvest, as indicated in our last, is becoming more and more impressive upon all the commercial circumstances and prospects. Half a week of fine, or half a week of bad weather, has an influence of a magnitude hardly to be credited. Almost every matter of daily need in every branch of human dealing, materially affecting national affairs, and though sufficiently obvious in the greater transactions of commerce, yet still more powerfully operative, where it is barely imperceptible in all the lesser business of life. In this country, there is no question of a short crop; and from all that can be ascertained on the Continent the supplies will be both scanty and dear. What the breadstuffs of America may do will be a question of prices; but taken altogether, even under the most favorable, this quarters looked to from this date, there must be a considerable advance in the cost of provisions, nearly if not all the necessaries of life, during the ensuing twelvemonth. Events he generally unfavorable, it is probable we shall have the quartern loaf and the pound of butcher's meat up to a shilling. Couple this with the disposition to strikes, hitherto partial and not strictly connected, and suppose them more general and fraternally organized, and you have a condition of things such as the worst enemies of England might be sorry for. France is already hurrying forward against this pressure of scarcity, and it behooves other countries also to look about them against a not improbable evil day. As for ourselves, if we must largely increase our imports, we must use more propriotionately augment our exports of gold; and the effect of a marked diminution may be anticipated from what we see when only two or three millions are transferred from the Bank funds. Already has the anxiety of French importations raised the price of wheat in the London corn market twelve shillings above the average of last year. It is indeed a wonderful phenomenon of the nineteenth century, to witness a mighty empire paralyzed by a few showers of rain, and restored to health and strength by eight-and-forty hours' sunshine.

THE TURKISH QUESTION, *Sept.* 2.—It was Horace Walpole, we believe, who observed—"I don't think there is so easy a language in the world as the Ministerial. One learns it in a week." That is not however so comprehensible as it is easy, has been demonstrated by the revelations or explanations of the Turkish question, vouchsafed by Lords Aberdeen and Clarendon, and Sheridan Knowlton, before it was dispersed by Her Majesty's gracious letter of leave. It is almost ludicrous to look back on these answers to interrogatories, even within so short a time, and notice their true no-meaning, or their absolutely false scent of information. Notes, contents unknown, have been despatched right and left; some have succeeded somewhere, and others have miscarried. But I dare say all will end well. Trust to the wisdom of your Cabinet. The evacuation of the Principalities is a *sine qua non*, and it will. I think, be performed in a manner, and under the rude appearance of compulsion, and therefore it was deemed best to say nothing about it.

Since this lucid view was so oracularly promulgated, the mute pantomime has received for discussion, ten days at Constantinople, and returned by a courier, on the 20th, to Vienna with the apparently quite unexpected rider of the Sultan's signature to the note. It required some modification before it could be presented, and the Egyptian fleet arrives in the Bosphorus. Thus, to use a vulgar saying, the fat was all in the fire again, and a charming theme thrown out for the pens of newspaper writers throughout Europe—namely, to discuss the language of a document of which they know nothing, and speculate upon the corrections thereof, of which they know just as much. Some solid data we have accordingly had articles of produce or manufactures could be obtained, and at what cost, from the provinces, was liable to a very severe punishment. This knowledge of demand and supply was interdicted. All was kept in secrecy and mystery, and extravagant prices extorted wherever fancy or speculation induced a purchaser. It is therefore satisfactory to know that the least the insurrection can do will be to knock all this nonsense on the head, and open the markets of the country to an intercourse based on truth, founded on information and common interests. The skill and labor of the Chinese will be advantageously exchanged for the cheap and warm clothing produced by the mechanical machinery of northern moiety of the Celestial Empire has been overrun and conquered by the main flood of insurrection, made known to us as the captors of Nankin, and the present capital of Pekin, a leader pretending to a divine mission, and four great chiefs, claiming to be powers of the North, East, South, and West. Their extraordinary history, and origin of Christian laws and precepts with blasphemous pretensions, Old Testament massacres of men, women, and children, and the destruction of all idolatrous temples and their images, are the most remarkable features of their successful propagandism. Their last exploit recorded is the taking of Chin-Keang-foo, near Nankin, one of the strongest places in China, and at the junction of the grand canal with the river Yang-tse-kiang, and the key to the provisioning and strength of the northern provinces and the Tartar capital Pekin. It is with regret, that a naval attack by the Imperialists to recover this important post, was sanctioned by the presence and aided by the co-operation of European and American adventurers, so as to afford a color for the assertion that it was a conflict of Christianity with Christianity. Policy would dictate the avoidance of so injurious a course, the semblance of which is to be deprecated, as it is surely for the interest of mankind, if any aid is given, that it should be given to the other side.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

For the National Era.

SPRING.

BY C. JILLSON.

The balmy breath of Spring again
Is whispering softly round my brow.
And all the shadows of the past
Are fading from my vision now.
The ivied tower; the ruined wall;
The castle's turrets, old and gray;
The lofty spire and roofless hall,
Where trembling sunbeams dance and play:
And seem to smile with life and light,
And o'er the earth their radiance fling,
Since winter has been warned to flee
The grand approach of gentle Spring.

The earth now dons a fairer hue,
The stars gleam brighter from on high;
The moon a mellor aspect wears,
And seems the ruler of the sky.
Each shrub and plant, each forest tree,
Each bird, each beast, and even man,
Feels proud to welcome Spring's return.
And hail the hour that it has come.
O'er sunny vales and sloping hills
A flowery carpet now is spread,
And merry streamlets sing their lays
In rapture o'er the recent dead.

Yes, Winter sleeps within the tomb,
Where ages of the past repose;
Its chilly breath is felt no more,
No more are seen its drifting snows.
The calmer hours of Spring have come,
Most glorious season of the year!
Far brighter than the autumn time,
When all is lonely, sad, and drear.
But Winter cannot well complain
That Spring usurps unlicensed power;
Since on its grave, at each return,
Spring plants a never-fading flower.
Worcester, Mass., May, 1853.

JUDGE McLEAN'S DECISION.

HON JOHN McLEAN,
Judge of the Supreme Court U. S.

RESPECTED SIR: I have just read in a paper a report, which I presume is correct, of your opinion delivered in the Supreme Court of the United States, in the case of Washington McQuerry, claimed as a fugitive slave. Perceiving in this document arguments which appear to me inconclusive, and apprehending that these arguments, and the decision founded upon them, will tend—however undesired by you—to fix a system of tyranny and injustice on our country, I have felt impelled, as a sacred duty, to point out those errors to the public and to you, in a humble endeavor that this question may be reviewed, and that the evil I have indicated may be averted. I am aware that this may be deemed an intrusion on your province. But a decision of a Judge is considered final, and exempt from any subsequent complaint by private citizens—but it should be recollected, that while many provision is made by our Constitution for the correction of errors or usurpations by every other department of Government, those of the Judiciary can only be reached by the voice of public opinion; and our constant assertion of the freedom of the press and of speech would be a mere mockery, if that freedom was not permitted in regard to judicial decisions, as well as to other transactions of the Government. Impressed with these sentiments—although only a private and aged citizen—I venture to offer the following comments, to which I hope, from your honor's known liberality, a candid attention.

The only question involved in the decision of your honor, which I propose now to discuss, is that relating to the constitutionality of the Fugitive Slave Laws of 1793 and 1850. That this constitutionality had hitherto been maintained by the District Courts, so far as I have seen, by arguments unsatisfactory to me, I was glad to perceive that this was the chief question in the trial before your honor; and I was not a little eagerness to see what position would be taken regarding it, and how it would be sustained by an authority so high as that of a Judge of the Supreme Court of the United States. Bearing in mind the provision of the tenth amendment of the Constitution, that "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people," I had formed the theorem that no act of the United States Government could be pronounced constitutional, unless some power so expressly granted in the Constitution to the United States, authorising such act; and, as a consequence, that no department of the United States Government could constitutionally assume a power which was not expressly granted to other department. I had, therefore, reason to expect, that in your argument for your decision you would not only have adduced the power granted to the United States to act in the recovery of fugitive slaves, but that you would have shown that such power was expressly invested in Congress. In this reasonable expectation I have been, as ever before, disappointed. Your honor has cited the clause of the Constitution requiring the delivery of fugitives from service, but not the power granted for its execution; you have relied on the vague arguments in support of this enactment, which seem to me to have but little force to countract the prohibition of the tenth amendment.

The chief if not the only ordinance of your honor is on authority—the authority of the debates in adopting the Constitution, and of former judicial decisions. You say: "In the case of Prigg *vs.* The State of Pennsylvania, the Judges of the Supreme Court decided, without dissent, that Congress had the power to legislate on the subject;" and, again: "The Supreme Court of every State in the Union, before which the question has arisen, has uniformly recognised the same power in Congress." This "strong authority" you think "should overbear individual opinion, unless the number of individuals entertaining an opposite opinion be a great enough to change the organic law of the land." It seems to me this is not presenting the true issue. The question is not whether any amount of authority should overbear individual opinion, with which a judge in trial has no concern, but whether this weight of mere authority should overbear a strict rational interpretation of the language of the Constitution. In citing these authorities, your honor has not shown the ground on which this legislation and decision were originally founded; and we are logically brought to the question, whether, according to the true rules of law and by his oath, a judge has a right to ignore his own perception of the meaning of the Constitution, and rest his opinions entirely on decisions made for him by others; especially when the original ground of those decisions is unknown, or seen to be defective. The latter course may suffice for ordinary lawyers, but will not satisfy intelligent men not trained in the tortuous maxims of that profession.

Although I lay down the principle that rational interpretation of law, and not authority, should, in a Republic like this, be the basis of judicial decision; and although I agree to the maxim that we should never look out of an instrument for the intentions of parties to it, when they can be fully found within it, yet it may be useful to examine the collateral considerations by which your honor has endeavored to sustain the constitutionality of the Fugitive Slave Law. You remark that "the Federal Constitution" was discussed by the several States who accepted it:" that "various essays were written by distinguished citizens:" that those who enacted the law of '93 were not ignorant of any of the provisions of the Constitution, as some had "been delegates in the Convention," &c.; and you consider this an authority "which must silence all objection;" but your honor has not shown how far any of these discussions, there was any production of any power in Congress to pass a law on the recapture of fugitive slaves. There is every reason to believe that if the debates of the Sates could have foreseen that such a law as that of 1850 could be erected on so unsubstantial a foundation as the clause for the delivery of fugitives from service, they never would have accepted the Constitution, without expunging that clause; for they were unanimously and resolutely set against any implication in the support of slavery, which their enactment decidedly fixes upon them. In default of any development on this point, the mention of the various discussions on the Constitution has no force in proving the constitutionality of the Fugitive Slave Law.

But your honor arrives at your conclusion "by looking at the act as arising under the Constitution," which I have denied; and you ask: "Is the construction of that instrument, in some of its vital points, never to be settled?"

If by this your honor means to ask whether any construction of the Constitution, by any court or courts, is never to be so settled as to preclude any judge, in any future trial, from considering it on its own view of the correct construction of that instrument, I answer, Never; and every intelligent lover of freedom and justice will emphatically echo, Never. Judicial courts are only authorised to construe the constitution and laws for the use in hand, and not for any other. Whenever the decision of a court, in any case, becomes a binding authority on a future court, that decision goes beyond a mere judicial award, and becomes a legislative act. I am aware that this maxim of proscriptive obligation is concurred in by all our courts; but it is one derived from the monarchies of Europe, with which it is incongruous, and is totally incompatible with the principles on which the American Governments are founded. If judicial decisions in this country, however unjust, are like those of the Medes and Persians—final and irrevocable—our Revolution was a failure—our renunciation of the British Government was in vain; we are still under its judicial tyranny, irrefragible by the people.

But your honor says that "if no respect is paid to the weight of current authorities for half a century, the basis of our social fabric will be shaken—there will ensue disorder and confusion, nor will there be a resting place for hope." This seems to me a *non sequitur*. I have seen many of these predictions of anarchy on this supposition, but never have been favored with the slightest reason in support of them. I imagine how a disregard of unjust precedents and decisions of courts of law is to unsettle any of our really valuable institutions or customs. If any social fabric is to be shaken, it will be by the virus of those judicial and political maxims which lie like a canker at its root, eating away every principle of freedom, until the people, like those of Europe, are aroused to violent insurrection.

I have nothing to say against the remark of your honor, that the legislation for the rendition of fugitives from service or labor was not incumbent on the States. For I do not believe that it is so. But you proceed to refer to several clauses of the Constitution imposing other duties or prohibitions on the States, for the execution of which Congress has provided by law; and you conclude, on the whole of them, that, "Undoubtedly Congress may legislate on these provisions." It is not necessary to take these in detail—one simple sentence will cover the whole. If Congress is not expressly empowered by the Constitution to legislate on these provisions, then any legislation respecting them, by that body, is unconstitutional—as is the Fugitive Slave Law. Whatever may be the mode of legislation may heretofore have been. Indeed, the judgment on one of the provisions you have cited is opposed to your conclusion: I refer to that which "declares that citizens of one State shall be entitled to all the rights and immunities of the several States." This provision is perpetually disregarded by the law of South Carolina, if she were not a member of the Union. All the strong animosity between the States, and all the danger of collision with foreign Powers, arising from this law, might be averted by a decision of the United States, enforcing this provision; but Congress has never yet seen that they could constitutionally make such a law.

The provision for the rendition of fugitives from service, your honor says, was the result of a compromise, for which you have the authority of Judge Marshall. No person doubts this; but what have the people or the courts to do with this compact? The Federal Government is between the States, in the Convention which formed the Constitution. In adopting that instrument, the people only assumed the provision of the Constitution, and left the question to the meaning of its language. If this does not confer a power on Congress, no previous compromise, debates, State resolutions, or usages, can authorise such a power. The fact will have, however, true, that on this provision, though not on the language of the right of rendition is one which the citizens of one State may claim and must receive of another State;" and it is also true that "the Federal Government has the power to carry out and perpetuate this right;" but this power is not given to Congress.

This brings me to the argument most apparently cogent in all the vindication of your honor's decision. It is said there can be no legal defect without a remedy, and no law without a mode of execution, or, as you term it, a "sanction." But it is not perceived how this unquestionably true maxim authorizes such execution by any particular department of the Government, to whom the power is not granted. In this case, then, the alleged deficiency of express remedy your honor assumes.

The third article of the Ordinance of your honor is on authority—the authority of the debates in adopting the Constitution, and of former judicial decisions. You say: "In the case of Prigg *vs.* The State of Pennsylvania, the Judges of the Supreme Court decided, without dissent, that Congress had the power to legislate on the subject;" and, again: "The Supreme Court of every State in the Union, before which the question has arisen, has uniformly recognised the same power in Congress." This "strong authority" you think "should overbear individual opinion, unless the number of individuals entertaining an opposite opinion be a great enough to change the organic law of the land." It seems to me this is not presenting the true issue. The question is not whether any amount of authority should overbear individual opinion, with which a judge in trial has no concern, but whether this weight of mere authority should overbear a strict rational interpretation of the language of the Constitution. In citing these authorities, your honor has not shown the ground on which this legislation and decision were originally founded; and we are logically brought to the question, whether, according to the true rules of law and by his oath, a judge has a right to ignore his own perception of the meaning of the Constitution, and rest his opinions entirely on decisions made for him by others; especially when the original ground of those decisions is unknown, or seen to be defective. The latter course may suffice for ordinary lawyers, but will not satisfy intelligent men not trained in the tortuous maxims of that profession.

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For the National Era.

THE SOUTHERN PLATFORM:

OR,

MANUAL OF SOUTHERN SENTIMENT ON THE SUBJECT OF SLAVERY.

Being a Compilation from the Writings of Washington, Jefferson, Madison, and others, whose names are consecrated in the affections of the Southern People—the Debates in the Federal and State Conventions which framed and ratified the Constitution of the United States—those which occurred in the first Congress which met during the Administrations of General Washington—and extracts from the Debate in the Virginia Legislature in 1832; *with various letters, judicial decisions, &c.*

BY DANIEL R. GOODLOE, OF NORTH CAROLINA.

ANNALS OF CONGRESS.—Continued.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18.

The House again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the Report of the Committee on the Quakers' memorial, &c.; Mr. Benson in the chair.

The subject underwent some further discussion, and the Committee rose, without closing it, and obtained leave to sit again.—*Page* 1464.

MARCH 19.

The House then went again into a committee on the Quakers' memorial, &c.; Mr. Benson in the chair.

The fourth proposition, respecting a duty of ten dollars on slaves imported, being read, it was moved to strike out the clause, which motion, after much debate, was adopted.

Several modifications of the fifth proposition were offered, but the following in substance, offered by Mr. Madison, was agreed to, viz: Congress have authority to restrain the citizens of the United States, who are concerned in the African trade, from supplying foreigners with slaves, and to provide for their humane treatment while on their passage to the United States.

The committee then rose, and the House adjourned till Monday next.—*Page* 1466.

MARCH 21.

The House again went into a committee of the Whole on the Quakers' memorial, &c.; Mr. Benson in the chair.

The sixth article was further discussed.

Mr. Scott commenced the debate, advocating the prayer of the memorialists, and was replied to by several of the Southern members.—*Page* 1466.

Here Mr. Boudinot defends the memorial at some length, and replies to Mr. Smith, after which—

It was moved that the sixth article be struck out, but the motion was negatived. The committee then agreed to the proposition. The seventh article was, on motion, struck out.

The committee then rose, and made their report to the House, which was laid on the table. *Page* 1471.

MARCH 23.

It was then moved that the House should take up the report of the Committee of the Whole on the report of the committee to whom was referred the memorials of the people called Quakers, and of the Pennsylvania Society, for promoting the abolition of slavery.

The motion was opposed by Mr. Jackson, Mr. Smith, Mr. Sumter, and Mr. Blount; they severally observed that the discussion of the subject has already excited a spirit of dissension among the members of the House, and that every principle of policy and concern for the dignity of that House, and the peace and harmony of the United States, concur to show the propriety of dropping the subject, and letting it sleep where it is. On the other hand, Mr. Vining, Mr. Page, Mr. Burke, and Mr. Hiester observed, that there was the same propriety in taking up the subject at the present moment, and bringing it to a conclusion, as there was at the first time it was brought before the House; discussed it cannot be supposed gentlemen will go over the same ground again; it may soon be determined; to pass it over will be unprecedented, and will leave the public mind in the same state of uncertainty under which so much danger is apprehended. The motion for taking up the report was warmly contested in a lengthy debate, and finally passed in the affirmative, by a majority of one. Whereupon the question was the said report of the committee, and also the report of the committee of the whole House, of amendments to said report, be inserted on the Journal, in the words following, to wit:

Those who voted in the affirmative, were—

Messrs. Boudinot, Brown, Cadwalader, Contee, Fitzsimons, Floyd, Gilman, Goodhue, Griffin, Hartley, Hathorn, Heister, Huntington, Lawrence, Lee, Leonard, Madison, Muhlenburg, Parker, Partridge, Schureman, Scott, Sedgwick, Sherman, Sylvester, Sinnickson, Vining, and Wynkoop.

Those who voted in the negative, were—

Messrs. Ames, Baldwin, Benson, Bland, Burke, Carroll, Coles, Gale, Grout, Jackson, Livermore, Matthews, Moore, Page, Parker, Sumter, Tucker, of Maryland, Smith of South Carolina, Stone, Sturges, Sumter, Thatcher, Trumbull, Tucker, White, and Williamson.

The said report is as follow:

Report of the Special Committee.

The committee to whom were referred sundry memorials, from the people called Quakers, and also a memorial from the Pennsylvania Society, for promoting the abolition of slavery, and the relief of free negroes,

That, from the nature of the matters contained in these memorials, they were induced to examine the powers vested in Congress under the present Federal Constitution, for the abolition of Slavery, and are clearly of opinion.

1st. That the General Government is expressly restrained from prohibiting the importation of such persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, until the year one thousand eight hundred and eight."

2dly. That Congress, by a fair construction of the Constitution, are universally restrained from interfering in the emancipation of slaves who are already are, or who may, within the period mentioned, be imported into, or born within, any of the said States.

3dly. That Congress have no authority to interfere in the internal regulations of particular States, relative to the insructions of slaves in the principles of morality and religion; to their comfortable support and clothing; to the regulation of their marriages, and the prevention of the violation of the rights thereof, or to the separation of children from their parents above the age of discretion, or the cases of sickness, age, or infirmity, or to the measure, transportation, or sale of free negroes; but have the fullest confidence in the wisdom and humanity of the Legislatures of the respective States, that they will revise their laws from time to time, when necessary, and promote the objects mentioned in the memorials, and every other measure that may tend to the happiness of slaves.

4thly. That, nevertheless, Congress have authority, if they shall think it necessary, to lay at any time a tax or duty, not exceeding ten dollars for each person of any description, the importation of whom shall be by any of the states admitted as aforesaid.

5thly. That Congress have authority to interdict, or (so far as it is or may be carried on by citizene of the United States for supplying foreigners) to regulate the African trade, and to make provision for the humane treatment of slaves, in all cases within their passage to the United States, or to foreign ports. so far as respects the citizens of the United States.

6thly. That Congress have also authority to prohibit perpetually from fitting out vessels in any port of the United States for transporting persons from Africa to any foreign port.

7thly. That the memorialists be informed, that in all cases within the authority of Congress extends, they will exercise it for the humane objects of the memorialists, so far as they be promoted on the principles of justice, humanity, and good policy.

Report of the Committee of the Whole House.

The committee of the whole House, to whom was referred the report of the Committee on Memorials of the people called Quakers, and of the Pennsylvania Society, for promoting the abolition of slavery, report the following amendments:

Strike out the first clause, together with the recital thereto, and in lieu thereof, insert, "That the migration or importation of such persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, cannot be prohibited by Congress prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight."

Strike out the second and third clauses, and in lieu thereof, insert, "That Congress have no authority to interfere in the emancipation of slaves, or in the treatment of them within any of the States, it remaining with the several States alone to provide any regulations therein which humanity and true policy may require."

Strike out the fourth and fifth clauses, and in lieu thereof, insert, "That Congress have authority to restrain the citizens of the United States from carrying on the African trade, for the purpose of supplying foreigners with slaves, and of providing, by proper regulations, for the humane treatment of slaves, during the passage, of slaves imported by the said citizens into the States admitting such importation."

Strike out the seventh clause.—*Pages* 1472 to 1474, *inclusive.*

ANNALS OF THE SECOND CONGRESS.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1793.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House on this bill sent from the Senate, entitled an "Act respecting fugitives from justice, and persons escaping from the service of their masters;" after which an act respecting fugitives from justice, and persons escaping from the service of their masters," which lay on the table; whereupon, the said bill, together with the said amendment agreed to yesterday, was read the third time, and, after some question that the same do pass, it was resolved in the affirmative—yeas 48, nays 7, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Baldwin, John Baptist Ashe, Abraham Baldwin, Jeremiah Bass, Egbert Benson, Elias Boudinot, Shearjashub Bourne, Benjamin Bourne, Abraham Clarke, Jonathan Dayton, William Findley, Thomas Fitzsimmons, Elbridge Gerry, Nicholas Gilman, Benjamin Goodhue, James Gordon, Christopher Greenup, Andrew Gregg, Samuel Griffin, William Barry Grove, Thomas Hartley, James Hillhouse, Wm. Hindman, Jonathan N. Havens, Daniel Hiester, Andrew Kitchell, Amasa Learned, Richard Bland Lee, George Leonard, Nathaniel Macon, Andrew Moore, Frederick Augustus Muhlenburg, Peter Muhlenburg, Alexander D. Orr, John Page, Cornelius C. Schoonmaker, Theodore Sedgwick, Peter Sylvester, Israel Smith, William Smith, John Steele, Thomas Sumpter, Thomas Tudor Tucker, Jeremiah Wadsworth, Alexander White, Hugh Williamson, and Francis Willis—48.

NAYS—Samuel Livermore, John Francis Mercer, Nathaniel Niles, Josiah Parker, Jonathan Sturges, George Thatcher, and Thomas Tredwell—7.—*Page* 861.

An act respecting fugitives from justice, and persons escaping from the service of their masters.

SEC. 3. *And be it also enacted*, That when a person held to labor in any of the United States, or in either of the Territories on the Northwest or South of the river Ohio, shall escape into the same, then the person to whom such labor or service may be due, his agent or attorney, is hereby empowered to seize or arrest such fugitive from labor, and to take and carry or transfer any judge of the Circuit or District Courts of the United States, residing or being within the State, or before any magistrate of a county, city, or town corporate, wherein such seizure or arrest shall be made, and upon proof to the satisfaction of such judge or magistrate, either by oral testimony or affidavit taken before and certified by the magistrate of any such State or Territory, that the person so seized or arrested, doth, under the laws of the State or Territory from which he or she fled, owe service or labor to the person claiming him or her, it shall be the duty of such judge or magistrate to give a certificate thereof to such claimant, his agent, or attorney, which shall be sufficient warrant for removing the said fugitive from labor to the State or Territory from which he or she fled.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That any person who shall knowingly and willingly obstruct or hinder such claimant, his agent, or attorney, in so seizing or arresting such fugitive from labor, or shall rescue such fugitive from such claimant, his agent, or attorney, when so arrested pursuant to the authority herein given or declared, or shall harbor or conceal such person after notice that he or ehe was a fugitive from labor, as aforesaid, shall, for either of the said offences, forfeit and pay the sum of five hundred dollars, which penalty may be recovered by and for the benefit of such claimant, by action of debt, in any court proper to try the same, saving moreover to the person claiming such labor or service his right of action for or on account of the said injuries, in either of them.

Approved, Feb. 12, 1793.—*Pages* 1414, 1415.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

NEW YORK CORRESPONDENCE.

The Whole World's Temperance Convention.—Meeting of the Evening Post Society.—The Woman's Rights Convention.—The Half World's Convention—Exclusion of Female and Colored Delegates, &c.

NEW YORK, *Sept. 10th, 1853.*

To the Editor of the National Era:

A correspondent's welcome home, to you and yours!

My last letter was dated at Syracuse—the city of salt and sedition—as I feel like calling it. Of course, neither you nor your readers expected me to write much of city topics last week, in view of the Fair. Now, I mean to give all the unnoticed events of the past week the go-by, except one. I allude to the "Whole World's Temperance Convention," which assembled at Metropolitan Hall on the second day of the month, of which I promised to say something.

Suffice it to say of this convocation, that it was unusually successful, whether regarded as an annual jubilee, or as indicating the spirit and temper of its proceedings. As was to have been anticipated, a large proportion of the delegates were women, against whom it was not attempted to close doors. There was a strong infusion among them, but we will not commence a catalogue of their names, not wishing to seem invidious. Its presidency was most fortunately filled by Mrs. Lucy Stone, of Brighton, of Massachusetts, who was supported by numerous corps of official associates. Among the speakers I mention John P. Hale, who made a sort of debate on the occasion. He has never taken part in a temperance convention before, and though he gave them his assurance that his heart was in the cause. He was specially called out from the body of the hall, and was received very warmly on his appearance upon the platform.

This Convention past, mostly, the usual receives. To these there were two marked exceptions only. One of these was the project of a National legislation to back up the "Maine law," promulged a year or two ago through the *Era*, by Dr. Snodgrass—the chief aim whereof, as you will remember, to close the avenues of the United States Custom House against the importation of foreign intoxicating beverages. All original, unbroken packages of these were to pass through the custom houses of even Maine, despite her local regulations! The author of this measure has prepared a paper on the subject, as the official proceedings will show, which will be published in a pamphlet, which is in course of publication by a committee of the convention.

The other proposition referred to, came from Rev. W. H. Channing. It urged the necessity of places of popular amusement and innocent excitement as substitutes for intemperance, such as free lyceums, libraries, lectures, and concerts. The resolution, which was modified somewhat by the Business Committee, included theatrical performances among the desirable objects. In a speech, Mr. Channing referred to the glorious performance of Uncle Tom's Cabin, still being performed at the National Theatre, which, by the way, continues to attract swarming and eager audiences. Mr. Channing said he could weep over angelic Eva, groan over suffering Tom, wonder at poor, uncultivated Topsy, shudder over fiendish Legree, study enigmatic St. Clair, and laugh at humorous Marks.

Of Mr. Channing's suggestions, the *Sunday Courier* forcibly remarks, in an article reviewing the proceedings of the Convention:

"It is easier to talk than to do. Legislation merely is not. It is a great mistake to think that men become drunkards on purpose. The world must have occupation—nay, diversion and excitement at times; and Mr. Channing might as well speak of the necessity of providing places and means of popular amusement, as substitutes for barrooms and gin-cock tails, which are now sought as a desperate remedy. Temperance men generally ande who would be glad to have some better place of resort and more rational means of enjoyme nt, before the habit of morbid excese ie irked upon them. As to the theatres, as a sufficient answer to the *Tribune*, we may point triumphantly to the revolution now going on at the National Theatre in this city, with the aid of the drams of Uncle Tom's Cabin. There the authority to close them is exercised by the whole town—as hundreds of less liberal clergymen are doing—and witness a fresh justification of his philosophy."

On the evening of the 3d, a Cold Water Banquet was partaken of by a large number of the friends of Temperance, under the auspices of the New York Vegetarian Society, of which Dr. R. T. Trall, of the Lalght street Water Cure Institute, is the head and front. Mr. Horace Greeley presided, and spoke encouragingly.

We had a sermon by that noble-souled woman, Rev. Antoinette Brown, in Metropolitan Hall, on Sunday morning, and Anti-Slavery meetings in the afternoon and evening. This novel movement was put on foot by the indefatigable Oliver Johnson, of the *Anti-Slavery Standard*, and held under the auspices of the New York Anti-Slavery Society, of which Mr. Johnson is corresponding Secretary. The evening's meeting was addressed by Lucretia. Mott and Lucy Stone. An immense audience was attracted by the unpaid-for advertisements. A number of merchants, clerks, and "drummers," in order to please the latter and save the Union, got up a row, and tried to silence Miss Stone, but with little success. She spoke powerfully, as a Maryland slaveholder, himself a published orator, admitted to me at the close of the meeting.

The present week, which has been one of intense and unrelaxed excitement, as you will infer, when I inform you that we have had the Reform Convention, the Half World's Temper' ance Convention, as it is styled, the Women's State Temperance Society, and the Half World's Woman's Rights Convention. Of the first I have nothing new to report. The attendance was small. It did not promise much. The Woman's Rights Convention, I have still attended. Lucretia Mott presided, with that native gentleness and grace for which she is noted. The speakers were numerous and mostly good. Phebia Wright Hanaford, Ernestine L. Rose, Dr. Hunt, Mrs. Ernestine Rose, Mrs. J. H. Martyn, and other noble spirited and eloquent women, were among the speakers. It held its session in the Tabernacle, which was provided with the noisiest row that I have ever witnessed, which put the Tabernacle completely into the hands of the rowdies, and brought the meeting to a close.

There were some aspects of this latest Unionsaving operation worthy of notice. I observed, in the first place, a degree of freedom from man and a violent design, greatly in contrast with similar anti-social exhibitions in the former years; and in the second place, I observed that the females composing the Convention and the audience, did not go into fainting fits as of yore, in which they had been carried out in the arms of horrified husbands and beaux, but that they either calmly contemplated the turbulent scene of shouting and stamping rowdyism, or laughed at the ludicrous antics of the actors. Mark these facts. They are valuable landmarks of progress.

Next I notice the meeting of the Women's State Temperance Society, in the Tabernacle on Wednesday evening. Mrs. Mary C. Vaughn, of Oswego, presiding. The speakers were Mrs. Amelia Bloomer, Miss Emily Clark, and Lady President. These are all able and efficient advocates of Temperance, who have done a glorious work in State.

What shall I say of *the* feature of the week, the "Half World's Temperance Convention?" Why, it was a failure, and I will tell you the name which the public gave it. Although the call was construed to include all representatives of Temperance organizations, without regard to sex or color, the Executive Board (Wm. Goodell, Neale Dow) so to mean, a resolution was passed, declaring that the public platform, in its opinion, was not an allowable place for females. During my attention to the "opinion," Miss Brown arose to take part in the discussions. In so doing, she was interrupted by all sorts of points of order, insolent phrases, motions to adjourn, &c., her very presence seeming to frighten them out of their wits almost to death! For two mortal hours she stood on the platform, striving for a hearing, amid scenes the most disgreatable to the opposition. Finally, the president declared that Miss Brown would be heard, and that she would fail to be cleared by the police, so as to re-admit the members of the Convention only, the president being the sole judge of the time and place which prevailed. But the real object was to get rid of Miss Brown and those who stood by her, as was shown by the gross outrage of proceeding to vote upon the case of membership re-admitted, while others were standing at the door, waiting the call of their names! The next step was to dispute the credentials of those who claimed a hearing for, and excluding the most distinct of female delegates. Finally, they passed a resolution, forbidding females from speaking or *doing* anything—thus insulting the associations which delegated them, while depriving them of their representative right.

A Maine Law Poem, prepared expressly for the occasion, was read by Rev. John Pierpont. It was a glowing, stirring effusion, and did something towards redeeming the credit of a body which will long be remembered by liberal minds, for its disregard of the simplest rules of justice and the clearest principles of right.

INDICATOR.

IMPORTANT TO POSTMASTERS AND OTHERS.

We are requested to call attention to the following regulations in regard to postage on letters to foreign countries:

In the mail to Great Britain the single rate of postage is 24 cents; no packet of any kind, *whole postage or none at all* should be pre-paid. If anything less than the whole ie pre-paid, no account is taken of it, and it is entirely lost to the sender. The New York Post Office declines to change this rule, except on the conditions considered inadmissible.

In the Prussian closed mail to Germany 30 cents is the single rate, pre-payment optional. This pays from any place in the United States to any part of the German-Austrian Postal Union. A pre-payment of any sum less than the regular rate of 30 cents is not recognised, and is lost to the sender. *Odd cents, or fractions of the rate* could not be taken without seriously complicating the accounts, besides causing much additional labor and trouble at the exchange Office. An arrangement has been made since the United States and British Postal Convention, in the Prussian mail every full rate of 30 cents is credited, whether the whole postage is paid by a letter or packet is pre-paid or not, leaving no balance due to be collected at the office of delivery.

By the Bremen mail, the rule is the same as under the Prussian arrangement. The single rate to Bremen is 10 cents, to Oldenburg 12, to Hamburg 16, to Altona and Hanover 21, and to any other place in Germany 22 cents, prepayment optional. In either case a pre-payment of any fraction of the full rate goes for nothing.

The rule for rating letters to all foreign countries (except the British North American provinces) is to charge one rate for half an ounce or under, two rates if the weight is over one-half and not exceeding an ounce; *four* rates if over one and not exceeding two ounces; six rates if over two and not exceeding three ounces; and so on, charging two rates for every ounce or *fractional part of an ounce* over the *first* ounce. As this rule differs from that followed in respect to letters from a fraction of a half ounce or fraction of a half ounce counts as one rate only, postmasters who are not careful to observe this difference are liable to commit mistakes.

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